

WALSALL CHRONICLE

Thursday, July 10, 2014

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Fun in the sun

Shiny, happy people take to the streets

See Page 3



Primark is set

Laying foundations for £21m Old Square

See Page 11



Cook on books

New signing hopes to make an impact

See Back Page



Highways network £26m bid is on way

WORK on the main phase of a new multi-million pound road network which will pave the way for major regeneration in Walsall is to start within months.

It is hoped the long-awaited £26m highways project will improve routes and cut congestion between Pleck and Darlaston.

A new bridge has been built in Bentley Road South as part of the first stage and the rest of the Darlaston Strategic Development Area project is now due to start in September.

Four major junctions are due to be upgraded during the work which is anticipated to be completed around summer 2016. It fits in with plans for an enterprise zone in Darlaston which will bring in businesses and create thousands of jobs. Initial backing for the scheme was approved by the Government in December 2011.

It involved £14m of Whitehall funding with the rest made up of council contributions, money from Centra and from business. Final confirmation is anticipated in the coming months.

Stuart Everton, programme manager at Walsall Council, said: "The Darlaston Strategic Development Area (DSDA) Access Project is progressing well."

Exhibition date change

PLANS to build a new crematorium in Staffordshire will now go on display later this month instead of next week. The scheme is planned for land off Broad Lane, on the border of Essington and Bloxwich.

The plans were first laid out on the table more than 12 months ago.

Proposals were due to go on display at Essington Community Centre on Tuesday. But Richard Evans, of Westerleigh Group said it will be staged on July 28 from 2-7.30pm.

OLDER PATIENTS CARE HOME PLAN

Pro golfer admits to possession of images

A GOLF professional has admitted to possessing more than 2,800 indecent images of children and extreme pornography.

Guy Dean, who has worked at golf clubs in Penn, Rowley Regis, West Bromwich, Pelsall and Cannock, appeared at Stafford Crown Court on Monday.

The 44-year-old, of Pelsall Lane, Bloxwich, admitted seven charges of making indecent images of a child and two of possessing extreme pornographic images between June 2011 and April last year.

Dean also pleaded guilty to possessing three images of extreme pornography and five pornographic images involving animals. His entire haul totalled more than 2,800 pictures and one video. Miss Catherine O'Reilly, defending Dean, told the court a psychiatric report on her client was being prepared.

Judge Mark Eades adjourned the case for reports and Dean was released on unconditional bail. He will be sentenced at a date yet to be fixed. Dean started his professional career at Beaudesert Golf Club in Rugeley Road, Cannock, in 1986.

In 1996 he joined ranks with European Seniors Tour player Jim Rhodes at South Staffordshire Golf Club.

Towpath man grabs woman

A WOMAN was pushed against a wall and grabbed by a man along a canal towpath in Brownhills. It happened near to Chase Road Bridge at just after 10am on Friday and police are appealing for information.

The man was Asian, aged in his 20s, thin, around 5ft 3ins tall, wearing dark trousers, a white T-shirt and cycling gloves.

Anyone who saw anything suspicious can call police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Singer has Faith in her county roots



Country singer Faith Morley, from Darlaston Road, Wednesbury, with her new CD called Morning Star

A COUNTRY singer has hit a high note after launching her first album.

Faith Morley, of Walsall, started singing as a youngster and won a Beacon Radio singing competition when she was 15, giving her the chance to perform to thousands of people at a show which included Darius and Hear'Say.

He adds: "The cost of these beds in a care home setting will be higher than the standard fee levels paid by the council, because the residents will have a higher complexity of need."

"However, it is envisaged that overall these costs will less than in a hospital setting and represent better value for money."

● Parking – See Page 2

musicians, recorded the 10 songs at M2 Studios in Wolverhampton over almost a year.

After completing her theology and ministry studies at The Bible College of Wales in Swansea a few years ago, she started songwriting and met up with her former tutor, Rik Staines, who was rock band's Dark Star's vocalist.

Together, they began to write a collection of faith-filled inspirational songs for the album, which also features instruments such as the ukulele, keyboard and drums.

Miss Morley said: "There's a mixture between traditional country and

modern country rock songs. I sing about love and life. There's upbeat Christian songs on there. One of the songs deals with human trafficking issues."

The former Willingsworth High School pupil added: "It has been a journey. Music is a part of people's lives and I hope people will take something positive from my music. It has been fun to do it."

The album is available to buy as an MP3 on Amazon for £7.49 and is expected to be released on CD next week.

The CD is also expected to be available to buy in local shops.

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£400k equipment boost by printers

A RAPIDLY growing print firm has pumped £400,000 into buying new machinery to cope with demand – and has expanded its workforce by nearly a fifth in recent months.

Willenhall digital printing company CS Labels is one of the few firms across the country to use digital technology. And bosses say demand from food, drink and cosmetics companies is increasing.

The firm has installed a fourth digital press that will help with faster processing. A total of six staff have been taken on over the last year – boosting the number of staff from 32 to 38. The move will enable the company based in Midacre off Rose Hill to increase its production capacity by 25 per cent.

The firm employs 38 staff CS Labels and has achieved sales growth

of between 20 and 25 per cent each year for the past six years following its decision to become a digital printing specialist in 2007.

The family-owned business currently generates a £3m turnover and expects to add another £1m after the boost. Director Simon Smith said: "We are at the forefront of digital printing in the UK and that has required a lot of invest-

ment. We made the decision to move to digital seven years ago and that has paid off as we have the developed a skills set ahead of a market that is only just catching up..

The firm was founded 45 years ago by Roger Hughes. HSBC's Black Country and Shropshire Commercial Centre provided a £330,000 funding package for the latest investment.

School told it must try harder by Ofsted**Tom tees off to raise nearly £1k**

Tom Hewitt with Ellie Bridgwood, from Stratstone and Tanya Fellows, from Acorns

A KEEN golfer has raised £948 for a children's hospice. Tom Hewitt organised a charity golf day at South Staffordshire Golf Club with 138 private members taking part.

Proceeds from the fundraiser have gone to Acorns Children's Hospice in Walsall, which needs £8million a year to support families. Mr Hewitt, who is aged 68, was persuaded to raise money for the hospice after visiting the facility. He said: "Before I started my captaincy I had a look at

local charities helping children. It broke my heart to visit some of the children that don't have a long life expectancy with many of them not surviving past 25."

At the golf day, players had to compete in a range of golfing activities to win a weekend driving a Jaguar car. Mr Hewitt from Horsehills Drive, Compton spent three weeks planning the fundraiser. The charity golf day took place on June 14.

He added: "As a father of two boys I feel privileged that they are healthy."

Parking at Manor to be hit by ward work

UP TO 60 parking spaces will be lost during the construction of a new multi-million pound ward at Walsall Manor Hospital, it has emerged.

Work has started on the £4.7m overspill ward, which will create 30 extra beds, helping to ease pressure on the busy hospital. It is being built on the western side of the site off Pleck Road and is expected to be completed in December. But while construction takes place around 60 spaces will be lost. Bosses have not yet revealed whether the spaces will be reinstated.

Ward councillor Dennis Anson said: "I can understand losing the spaces while the building work is carried out but I certainly expect that they will be replaced afterwards. If they are not, I shall be complaining to the chief executive."

There around 600 parking spaces at the site in total.

The new ward is to help reduce some of the traditional pressure faced by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, which runs the hospital, over the winter period.

Known as a decent ward, it will deal with patients moved from other wards that are being redecorated or cleaned.

£1.5m bill for workers

THE cost of temporary workers at under pressure Walsall Manor hospital has risen again to more than £1.5 million a month, latest figures have revealed.

The bill for locum, agency and bank workers at the Manor hit £1.525m during May, a report to health chiefs showed.

This was an increase on the £1.3m in March and £1.4m cost in April. Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust has been looking to cut down on temporary workers after the monthly bill hit £2m last year. The overall rise was mainly due to locum costs.

M&S in slump

MARKS & Spencer revealed it has suffered another fall in non-food sales. M&S, with a store in Park Street, Walsall, said like-for-like sales in general merchandise fell by 1.5 per cent in the 13 weeks to June 28, bringing declining sales up to 12 quarters in a row.

Boy hit by lorry died of head injuries

A SCHOOLBOY died from head injuries after he was hit by a lorry when he was on his way home from school an inquest heard.

Jack Garrington, of Rushall, died after being struck by the truck while crossing Chester Road near to the Anchor Pub in Walsall. The 11-year-old was walking from his school, Shire Oak Academy in Brownhills, to his home in Kings Road, Rushall.

The inquest held at Smethwick Council House last Monday, heard that police had been called to the scene of the accident just before 3.30pm on April 10.

PC Steven Jubb, from the collision investigation unit, told the inquest that witnesses had said Jack had entered the road after being prompted by another boy and had not looked out for oncoming vehicles.

Investigations led to the suggestion that Jack had been struck 1.3m into the carriageway, the inquest was told.

The inquest was told that Jack had suffered a fractured skull and had died from head injuries.

Black Country coroner Robin Balmain came to the conclusion that the youngster had died as a result of a road traffic collision.

Hosepipe ban is ruled out

A HOSEPIPE ban is unlikely this summer, water bosses have said.

Reports suggest June was one of the warmest since records began in 1910 with the thermometer set to rise higher than average in July for the seventh month in a row. But Severn Trent Water has insisted resources are fine with no hosepipe bans expected this year.

Marcus O'Kane, water resources strategy chief said: "It may have been warm over the last few months, but it has also been raining and this has kept our resources in good supply."

Store collection

A SUPERMARKET has raised thousands of pounds for charity in memory of Burntwood teenager Stephen Sutton. Staff at Sainsbury's in Cannock gathered £3,000 through collection buckets in just eight weeks. The money was presented to the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Families' relief after camp plan rejected



The house in Long Lane, Newtown

FAMILIES have spoken of their relief after plans to turn a back garden into an official campsite for caravans was turned down after a long campaign.

Bill Watton had applied to the Camping and Caravanning Club to set up the certified campsite at the back of his house in Long Lane, Newtown. It would have paved the way for five caravans or motorhomes plus 10 tents. The long-running campaign had previously seen a planning application for three caravans, containing two gypsy households, suffer the same fate by planning chiefs who rejected the proposals.

Members of Essington Parish Council provided the club with details of Mr Watton's previous applications for the land.

Councillor David Clift, chairman of Essington Parish Council, claimed the latest application was a 'cheap way to sneak in planning permission by the back door' and he said that the club had said it had turned down the application in light of the publicity. Residents had sent letters to The Caravan and Caravanning Club detailing their dismay at the plans.

Among them was Mike Tolliday, who lives near to the proposed site on Long Lane.

He said the decision was good news for the village. "This is a residential area and we have already got enough caravan sites," said the 69-year-old. "We simply don't need any more."

Another villager, who asked not to be named, said allowing a campsite on the land could set a 'dangerous precedent'. The 80-year-old said: "You can rest assured other people would have tried it on."

Councillor Clift had sent out 200 letters to residents living near the proposed site informing them of Mr Watton's fresh plans. Mr Watton was unavailable for comment.

NEWS in brief

Activities and sports on offer

YOUNG people can enjoy a mix of cricket, swimming, freestyle soccer, mountain biking and scuba diving this summer.

A programme of more than 400 activities are being organised for nine to 19 year-olds. There will also be jewellery-making workshops, cooking around the world courses and smoothie-making.

For details visit the www.mywalsall.org/positive website, call 01922 655419 or email summer@walsall.gov.uk.

Pupils get fired up for rocket fun

PUPILS have been sampling fire, explosions and rockets as part of a new project.

Young people from Barr Beacon School in Aldridge have been getting inspiration on considering jobs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths. As part of the tasks, pupils were challenged to design, build and modify a small fan-powered car.

The designs were then pitted against each other and raced to find the fastest in the main school hall.

Girls' Wise move for engineering

DOZENS of young women attended an event aimed at getting them to consider a career in engineering.

Up to 60 women recently flocked to Wisemore Campus in Walsall for the Create Your Future workshop.

The event was organised by Wise, Women in Science and Engineering. Fay Best, Wise Associate, said: "It was great to see over 50 girls considering the varied and rewarding career options available to them in the engineering sector."

Night of music set for church

A NIGHT of music will take place at a church next weekend. Coalpool Methodist Church in Walsall is holding their annual Songs of Praise service at the weekend.

The church, in Coalpool Lane, is holding the service from 3pm on Sunday. The guest speaker will be local preacher Linda Brown. Everyone is welcome.

Delays for drivers

DRIVERS face six weeks of delays in Walsall as water main work is carried out. A one-way system will operate along Weston Street, West Bromwich Street and Corporation Street, Caldermore, from July 20 on.

Pelsall shines in the sun as carnival hits the streets

THERE was fun in the sun for thousands of families as they headed into the great outdoors for a weekend of events.

Pelsall Carnival was one of the many events to pull in the crowds at the weekend. Dog shows, car displays and a funfair were just some of the activities on Saturday as around 3,000 people visited Pelsall Common.

Many lined the streets to watch a procession leave from Commonside with 27 different acts, including five floats, six walking groups and two bands.

The Chase Royals Marching Band and Walsall Coronettes both took part.

Eighteen-year-old Megan Cox was crowned Carnival Queen and featured in the procession alongside her attendants.

The carnival featured more than 80 stalls, quad bikes, and shows including Zumba and dog racing. There were displays of cars and motorbikes, musical performances and gymnasts.

Winner of the best float went to Aldridge-based Jo-Leigh School of Dance, which had a Wizard of Oz theme.

Mother-of-two Jo-Leigh Tolley, who runs the dance school, said she was delighted with the result.

The 42-year-old, of Aldridge, said: "The parents of the dance students helped to make the float. There was a great atmosphere and everyone enjoyed themselves."

Pelsall Carnival Committee secretary Ian Rhydherd said it had been a successful event. He added: "When the first car boot trader turned up at 4.15am it was pouring with rain but at 10am the weather started to get better and it turned out great."



Best float winner was Jo-Leigh School of Dance with its Wizard of Oz float



A marching band parades at Pelsall Carnival



Let the good times roll – youngsters have fun on the fair

Labour planning to seize control of council

LABOUR will try to seize control of Walsall council if it wins a crucial by-election later this month. The party holds 29 seats, making it the largest individual group.

But it has been kept in opposition by the ruling Conservatives, even though they only have 21 of the seats, because of support from the Liberal Democrats, UKIP and independent councillors.

Labour had 30 of the 60 seats after the local elections in May but days later the party's leader Tim Oliver died.

A by-election to fill his seat in Birchills

Leamore will take place on July 24.

The local elections saw Labour gain two more seats but UKIP also gained its first three on Walsall Council.

Now the party's new leader Sean Coughlan has said that it will try to seize control after 14 years in opposition if it retains Councillor Oliver's seat.

The Tories stayed in control after other parties backed them to carry on and the mayor, Democratic Labour councillor Pete Smith, abstained.

But the deadlock will be broken if Labour

gets 30 seats to the other parties' 29 and Councillor Smith continues to abstain.

Councillor Coughlan said: "It is incumbent on us to try to take control. We have 50 per cent of the seats."

"The election was disappointing and it was also very sad because we lost Tim so soon afterwards."

Asked if the party would go for a no confidence motion in the administration he said: "We will try to do so at the earliest opportunity. I hope we will be able to call a special meeting."

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



OUR changing language. We are losing the battle to preserve "against." These days, people protest a decision and appeal a conviction. The next step? A radio reporter eliminated "about" as he told us that someone was "worrying the outcome." Sensible English is vanishing. I worry it. I really do.

□□□□□

HERE'S the sort of thing that makes people angry with big corporations. A couple of days ago our troubled landline packed up yet again. So I went online to the BT page which invites us to: "manage your BT line problems. Troubleshoot issues, report and track faults." I entered the phone number into the appropriate box. Back came the message: "Please note that faults on this line cannot be reported via BT.com - please call 0800 800 151." In other words, there's a fault on your phone, so please give us a phone call.

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THREE alien species are being targeted for extermination by Defra, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. I can see them bumping off the Indian house crow and the quagga mussel without too many problems. But what reckless, fate-loving fool will raise his shotgun against the third species, the sacred ibis? The clue is in the name. There is something about shooting an Egyptian sacred ibis that combines those twin follies of killing albatrosses and desecrating a Pharaoh's tomb. How long before those who slaughter the sacred ibis are discovered to be suffering from a nasty bout of ill-fortune, a term which will cover anything from sudden death to an ingrown toenail? I bet the headline writers are already on the case: "Curse of the Sacred Ibis." Don't you just love the silly season?

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FAREWELL, the old shoe shop, which has graced our main street for as long as I can remember. It is being replaced by an ice-cream parlour. In this internet age, the products that do best in the high street are the ones that cannot be ordered online. Shoes can be successfully delivered by courier, ice cream less so.

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SO THE future is robotics. If you believe everything you hear, the Government's Technology Strategy Board is going to drive the UK into the forefront of the global robotic market with a dozen new proving grounds for robots, drones and driverless cars. The aim is to release humans from dirty, dangerous or repetitive tasks. So far, so good. But anyone over 60 will recall the glittering promise of something called automation. Back in the 1950s, automation was going to release us humans from drudgery. As one old timer told me lyrically many years ago: "The idea was that we'd only have to work a couple of hours a day and we'd spend the rest of our time writing poetry and making mandolins." It has not happened. Far from setting mankind free, the new technology, based on computers, has shackled millions more people to the grindstone. In 1952 about 23 million British people were employed. Today that figure is approaching 32 million. What are the odds on robotics making life easier, giving us more time to raise the kids, draft the occasional sonnet and make a mandolin? Be very sceptical. The lesson of history is that the more labour-saving devices we invent, the harder we must labour.

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SOUTH Korea's World Cup squad were pelted with toilet fees after arriving home empty-handed from the World Cup. Over there, hurling high-calorie, sugar-filled treats at someone is regarded as a great insult. Over here, it's a friendly greeting. More Quality Street, gran?

□□□□□

"PEOPLE like me pay tax to finance an unneeded benefit to people like me," Roger Bootle, managing director of Capital Economics, writing this week about the winter-fuel payment and the "frightful mess" of our welfare system.

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Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Plaque remembers tragic crash pair



Joel Bradley and Natalie Nicholls

A PLAQUE has been unveiled in honour of two young men who were tragically killed in a car crash eight years ago.

Steven Millman and Daniel Powell were both 18 when they died in a road accident in Four Ashes, Staffordshire, in May 2006. Now friends of the football loving pair, who were pupils of Cheslyn Hay Sports and Community High School, have honoured their memories by commissioning a plaque.

It is displayed outside the pitches at Fea-

therstone Community Centre in Baneberry Drive, where Steven and Daniel used to wile away the hours playing football.

It was the brainchild of Natalie Nicholls, who raised money for the plaque by hosting a fundraising party at Brookfield Stables in Shareshill in May. Steven and Daniel had attended an end of term party in the hours before the fatal crash. Cash raised at the party was also used to repaint a set of benches at the community centre.



Daniel and Steven

Medics' fleet of new 4x4 vehicles

MORE than a dozen new 4x4 ambulances are to be introduced in the West Midlands under a £2.2 million investment from the region's ambulance service.

The 16 Mercedes vehicles will mean paramedics will be able to reach patients in difficult weather and muddy off-road conditions.

The fleet is being brought in by West Midlands Ambulance Service, which already has more than 300 ambulances and 200 rapid response vehicles.

It is hoped each hub, including Willenhall, West Bromwich and Dudley, will get its own 4x4 vehicle.

Craig Cooke, support services director, said: "The new vehicles will mean that for the first time we will have full size ambulance with 4x4 capabilities. This should improve the comfort and care to patients and offer a much better working environment for our staff."

Assistant area manager, Nigel Wells, said: "The new Mercedes 4x4 sprinter has been developed with staff and Mercedes to ensure they meet all the requirements of both the patient and the staff."

The cost of one of the new 4x4 ambulances is £140,000 compared to £100,000 of the normal ambulance vehicles.

Chip fryer sparks fire

A BLAZE spread through a security guard's home at an industrial estate after he left a chip pan on the hob before going out.

The fire started in the portable cabin at the SV Business Park in Willenhall at about 10.30pm last Wednesday. The guard lives on the site of the A454 Willenhall Road. Passers-by spotted smoke.

The fire spread through the kitchen area, while the rest of the home was damaged by smoke. Willenhall watch commander Andy Morgan said: "The unit was badly damaged."

Country ramble

A WALKING group will be heading off on a seven mile stroll of Oswestry this weekend. The Walsall Group of the Ramblers will be sampling the ancient woodland and meadows on Sunday. For details call 01922 691167 or email www.walsallramblers.co.uk

Chiefs hail £30m boost as 'positive' for town

A MULTI-million pound investment in roads and regeneration will have a 'significant positive impact' in Walsall, council chiefs say.

A Government funding boost of almost £30m has been earmarked for the expansion of junction 10 of the M6, after the region itself was boosted by £138m of investment to create 6,000 jobs, build 1,000 homes and train the next generation of skilled workers.

The scheme will involve new bridges over the motorway, which will be widened from two to four lanes to create more capacity.

It will also involve the installation of better traffic signals, improvements to the motorway slip roads, widening and modernisation of nearby Bloxwich Lane junction and modification to a small section of the Black Country Route.

Congestion

Walsall Council has been helping to draw up plans along with the Highways Agency over the last few years. Junction 10 of the M6 is often used by drivers heading between Walsall and Wolverhampton, but is regularly plagued by congestion.

Traffic regularly builds up along Wolverhampton Road, in Walsall, and the Black Country Route, which links Wolverhampton and Walsall, and leads up to the M6, causing delays.

Other benefits from the Black Country Growth Deal include investing £8 in the Goscole Lane corridor. The money will be on three brownfield sites and will have a significant positive impact on not only the transport network in Walsall but also the regeneration of the borough and from an employment point of view will not only safeguard existing jobs but also create new ones."

help fund a project to build 735 houses.

Walsall Housing Group are looking to build a total of 412 homes in the area and have put their plans together. Work could even begin later this year.

Other projects approved for investment include the £8 million Bentley Lane Remediation project in 2015-2017 which will create 11 hectares of high quality employment land through site remediation works which will then be available for development and job creation.

Regeneration chief, councillor Adrian Andrew, said: "The announcement is very good news for not only the borough of Walsall but for the Black Country and West Midlands as a whole.

"The improvements will have a significant positive impact on not only the transport network in Walsall but also the regeneration of the borough and from an employment point of view will not only safeguard existing jobs but also create new ones."

Crackdown on cars

POLICE patrols are being stepped up to reports that dozens of car cruisers have been gathering at an industrial estate. Scores of drivers have been spotted at Maybrook Industrial Estate in Brownhills, near Bloxwich. There were 18 registration numbers identified last weekend and dispersed by officers. West Midlands Police say any vehicles seen driving in an anti-social manner can be served with a section 59 notice. These give officers power to seize any vehicles being driven in anti-social way on a further occasion.

Trio are dancers of distinction



Front, Jessica Williams, aged 20, Abigail Edmonds, 20 and Grace Edmonds, 19

IT is a triple celebration for three students who have danced their way to success and passed their ballet exams.

The dancers attend Debonair Dance Academy in Cradley Heath have been awarded for their top-to-toe hard work, after they were all awarded distinction in their Advanced Two ballet exam with the ITDA. Jessica Williams, aged 20 and sisters Abigail, 20 and Grace Edmonds, 19, all achieved more than 80 per cent in the exam.

Dance teacher and academy owner Deb-

bie Baggett said: "I am so proud of them for what they have achieved and for setting the standard at the dance academy so high."

The girls have been dancing under Debbie's tuition since they were five and Debbie, 46, from Bluebell Road in Cradley Heath added: "It is lovely to see them progress all the way through. It is wonderful news for the academy."

Debbie added: "If anyone would like to join, feel free to contact me."

Debbie can be contacted on 07743 181745.

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Boost on buses is urged for residents

A PETITION has been submitted to Parliament to try and get evening and weekend buses for residents in part of Walsall, amid claims they are being left 'stranded' at home.

More than 60 people in Pheasey have called for a service at nights and Sunday. Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz is helping to lead the campaign on behalf of residents of Beacon Heights Park Homes.

She said the 934 and 936 buses no longer operate on Beacon Road on evenings and Sunday and was contacting transport bosses at Centro to try and speak with bus operators. Centro said there are good public transport links but would continue to monitor the situation.

Ms Vaz said: "There is a clear strength of feeling that residents are cut off from public transport, particularly in the evenings at weekends. More than half the residents of Beacon Heights Park Homes signed the petition."

"Many of the residents are elderly and do not drive. For them, the provision of good bus services is vital as they would have to pay for taxis every time they want to go out."

"Without access to public transport, many residents are effectively stranded at home. I have written to Centro to work with local bus operators to ensure that this service is provided as soon as possible."

Man died after a fall

AN elderly man died from a bleed on the brain after suffering a fall in a street in Willenhall, an inquest heard.

Stanley Bennett, aged 83, had a 2cm laceration to the back of his head after suffering a fall in Lichfield Road, Willenhall, an inquest heard last Wednesday at Smethwick Council House.

Mr Bennett, of Broad Lane North, Willenhall, later died on April 19 at New Cross Hospital. The inquest heard a motorist had seen him lying on the pavement and went to help.

Black Country coroner Robin Balmain concluded the retired company director had died as a result of an accident. He said: "It seems he had a distinct possibility that he had had some mini stroke."

Two-jobs Jim faces a busy year ahead



Jim Lee, aged 75, with Roger Marklew

IT was one of the most unusual inauguration ceremonies seen by Rotarians but it certainly brought a smile to all those who witnessed it. The new president of the Brownhills Rotary Club was congratulated on his new role in time-honoured fashion by the new chairman of the town's 41 Club, except that this year they happen to be the same person - 75-year-old Jim Lee.

He entertained fellow Rotarians at his inauguration by performing a comical sketch in which he played both parts.

Mr Lee said: "I stood there as the chairman of the 41 Club and said 'I'd like to

welcome you, Mr President, and wish you the best of luck for the coming year'. Then I went round the table and said: 'Thanks very much Jim, and I'd just like to say what an amazing chap the 41 Club has got in their chairman this year'.

"It was a bit of fun. Although the two clubs are close and often share the same members, it's the first time it's ever happened in 50 years that the same person has headed both clubs. It sounds like I'm going to have a busy time over the next 12 months." The Brownhills 41 club is made up of ex-Round Table members who meet

regularly. They dine together and also go on outings. Mr Lee, who lives in Hillside, Shire Oak, was installed as president at Druids Heath Golf Club in Aldridge, where the Rotarians hold their monthly meetings.

Mr Lee has been a Rotarian for only a year. "I don't think anyone else wanted the job," he joked. He was invited to the inauguration ceremonies of the Darlaston and Cannock presidents. But while he was there to see Kate Phillips installed as the new and first woman president of the Darlaston Rotary Club, his diaries have already clashed for the second date.

Former social care chief loses appeal on sacking

A FORMER social care boss who was sacked over allegations relating to his conduct in office has lost his appeal against the decision.

Paul Davies, former executive director for social care and inclusion at Walsall Council, was dismissed in March following an investigation after 'issues' were raised. No details have been revealed about the circumstances surrounding his departure.

Mr Davies has reported as blaming his apparent success in his job for being sacked.

He appealed against the move to relieve him of his duties at a behind-closed-doors hearing but that decision was upheld by the council.

In a statement Walsall Council's head of law Iqbal Javed confirmed the outcome.

"After a lengthy full day's hearing, Mr Davies' appeal was dismissed and the original decision to dismiss Mr Davies was upheld," Mr Javed said.

Mr Davies was suspended for 15 months by the council before his dismissal and was paid more than £138,000 in salaries during that period.

After the hearing Mr Davies told a reporter: "I am very sad to be leaving the place and the people that I love. I just feel very sad about the situation."

He previously claimed he was sacked for making other departments 'look bad' by driving through improvements on his own.

Mr Davies has claimed that in his first year at the council, the proportion of service users with a personal budget or direct payment rose from 10 per cent to 25 per cent, while numbers of disabled people going into residential care plummeted from the highest in England to among the lowest.

Best care home, bar none, for beer



POPPING down the pub may be a thing of the past for care home residents in the Black Country – after bosses decided to build them their own bar.

It will be installed at the Mali Jenkins home in Walsall, and volunteers are now being asked for their help to carry out the work. Managers say many of the residents are no longer able to go out to the pub themselves so they want to recreate the atmosphere for them at the home.

It will look out onto a bowling green, which has proved a hit since it was laid last year. Marston's has already donated beer pumps – but bosses need someone to build the bar.

Activity co-ordinator Debbie Turner said: "We have got some residents with dementia and neurological illnesses who used to go out and play dominoes and bowls, so we thought it would be lovely if they could have their own pub. Due to their capabilities it can be difficult to take them out but why should things like that stop when you come to a care home?"

The 'pub' will be called the Mali Returns – inspired by the famous Coronation Street landmark The Rovers Return – and will serve alcohol.

"The residents can still make the choice of whether they wish to drink," Mrs Turner said. "This will be a great place for them to socialise and bring their family along." Anyone who can help build the bar should call the home on 01922 746246.

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.'

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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Travelodge bid brings in 21 jobs

HOTEL chain Travelodge is creating 21 jobs in Walsall by expanding its maintenance team.

The posts will be based at its warehouse at Walsall Enterprise Park in Pleck. It is part of a £57 million modernisation project at the firm's hotels across the country.

Some of the new roles will involve travel across the UK, with staff based at the Walsall site.

Travelodge launched its in-house maintenance department in 2011.

£250k winner comes forward

A £250,000 lottery prize has been claimed weeks after the winning numbers were drawn after bosses launched a public appeal.

The ticket was bought in Walsall for the May 30 draw, and the cash prize had remained unclaimed.

But the winners have now come forward.

National Lottery spokesman Patrick Lisoire said: "We're delighted that the winner of this amazing prize has now come forward and we hope that they will enjoy their win."

Charity music in aid of hospice

A LIVE music event will be staged in Walsall later this month in aid of St Giles Hospice and the Teenage Cancer Trust.

The event, which has been organised by Walsall Council, will be held on Pelsall Common on July 26 from midday to 7pm.

There will be an acoustic and electric stage, children's craft workshops, poetry workshops, face painting and local artists.

UKIP top man due at meeting

THE deputy leader of the UKIP party will be in the Black Country for a public meeting being held today, Thursday.

Paul Nuttall will be guest speaker at Birchills Liberal Club in Old Birchills, Walsall.

The meeting takes place from 7.30pm and will also be attended by recently elected Walsall councillors.

Authors in visit

AUTHORS are at Pheasey Library today, Thursday. The authors of Tindal Street Fiction Group who have contributed to The Sea in Birmingham, an anthology of 22 stories, will be answering questions.

IN MY VIEW



with Mark Andrews

JUST returning from a brief spell in Europe, one thing always strikes me is how much better the town centres over there seem to be doing compared to those in this country.

One reason is unquestionably down to the fact that while in this country, local councils seem bent on making people walk as far as possible from their cars to the shops – take for example the ridiculous block paving outside the Express & Star offices in Queen Street, which seems to have at a stroke slashed the number of on-street parking spaces.

But the other thing is that all the shops open in the evening. It has always struck me as quite absurd how nearly all the shops in our town centres open just as everybody arrives at work, and then shut just at the same time as people return. Wouldn't it be a really clever idea for shops to maybe start trading a couple of hours later, say at 11am, and stay open to maybe 9pm?

□□□□□

JUST when you thought there was nothing left that Benefits Street star Deirdre 'White Dee' Kelly could do that would surprise you, she has finally decided to tell the world she has been off benefits for the past three months. Wonders will never cease. She has also fired a broadside at fellow celebrity chav Josie Cunningham.

White Dee says Cunningham, the 23-year-old would-be 'glamour model' who bragged about how she got her £4,800 breast enhancement on the NHS to help with her career, is 'rubbing the taxpayers' nose in it' with her incessant gloating about how much she is taking off the State.

It really comes to something when White Dee thinks you are lowering the tone. Meanwhile, it seems Josie has been offered a book deal, where she will no doubt wax lyrical about how her NHS surgery enabled her to embark on a spell as a £1,000-a-night 'escort' before becoming pregnant by a client.

The book will be in Josie's own words and completely unedited. No doubt in a few years' time, it will be appearing on the National Curriculum. In the mean time I'm sure we can all have a lot of fun colouring it in.

□□□□□

ANOTHER testament to the British education system comes in the shape of 19-year-old Zach Jackson, who found even the task of street robbery too much for his tiny brain to take in.

Because he found the work so gruelling, he compiled a helpful little checklist offering himself a bit of advice on how to complete the work successfully.

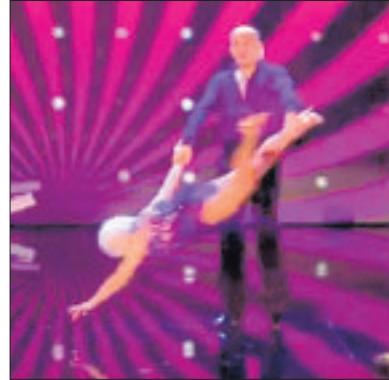
"Wear black clothes, gloves, warm up before doing it, watch out for CCTV, grab," were his pearls of wisdom for how to make it as an effective mugger. One tip, Zach. You're much less likely to get caught if you don't write down the instructions.



Paddy with her late husband David in Spain



Paddy receives flowers from Wolverley head Bryn Thomas



The great granny in action with dance partner Nico Espinosa

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

THE sudden death of West Midlands police and crime commissioner Bob Jones has left a void that many think cannot be filled – even though the law says they must do so in just over a month.

Were the loss of a public servant respected even by his political opponents not enough, the police have now been left dealing with one of the more absurd parts of the statute that created the post in the first place.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act that gave rise to the 2012 elections of PCCs requires a by-election to be held 'not more than 35 days after the relevant event'.

Councillor Darren Cooper, who chairs the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel, found himself in the unenviable position of having to discuss how to replace Mr Jones within four hours of being told of his passing.

There then followed a debate between Government departments over whether '35 days' meant calendar or business days and whether the 'relevant event' (such a cold and clinical term) meant Mr Jones' passing or some formal notification.

If we leave aside the gross insensitivity of a law that requires a vacancy to be filled so quickly, it is also a bureaucratic nightmare.

The PCC for the West Midlands covers not fewer than seven council areas. Three of them are cities and one of those is Birmingham, the second biggest in the country.

Then there will be the work for the political parties and candidates, who must select people to stand for them and get all the paperwork through.

There will need to be the time to come up with campaign literature.

Meanwhile the work of the PCC must continue. An interim appointment will be made later this month.

But what happens if the temporary post holder, likely to be deputy PCC Yvonne Mosquito, wants to throw her hat into the ring?

Will she be allowed to campaign while technically the incumbent?

All the while, we continue to mourn the loss of Bob Jones CBE, who never believed the role of a PCC should exist in the first place.

In a letter to the Express & Star in 2012, thanking voters and pledging to serve everyone, regardless of how or even if they voted, Mr Jones wrote: "I believe police and crime commissioners are an expensive and unnecessary change, poorly implemented and appallingly publicised."

Were he with us today he would be within his rights to say the chaos following his death had proved him correct.

But he'd be too busy quietly getting on with the job for that.

'I'll keep dancing as long as I can'

The octogenarian salsa dancer from Stourbridge isn't ready to quit, she tells CHARLOTTE LILLEY

SHE is the hip-shaking, nimble-footed great-grandmother who stunned the nation as she was thrown around the dance-floor by her younger partner.

Jaws dropped as Paddy Jones twirled around the Britain's Got Talent stage earning herself a standing ovation from all four judges.

As she celebrates her 80th birthday, she has revealed she has no plans to hang up her dancing shoes yet, vowing to carry on as long as she can.

Golden

Paddy, from Stourbridge, won the hearts of the nation when she was put straight through to the final of the ITV1 show after judge Amanda Holden pressed her golden buzzer.

She says: "Since appearing on the show my life has been incredible and now I want to encourage people to go for their dreams and not give up.

"My mother was a singer and she wanted to be professional but my grandpa said no and told her she had to stay in Stourbridge. I think she lived her life through me. I started dancing at the age of two and later started drama and elocution lessons because, living in the Black Country, elocution is important. I was 12 when I did my first professional show at Dudley Hippodrome and 15 when I left school to go into theatre."

Paddy performed in Dudley, Wolverhampton, Birmingham and Blackpool before meeting her late husband, David, at the age of 16. She decided to give up dancing aged 22 to start a family and ran a shop called Paddy's Fabrics in Victoria Passage, Stourbridge.



'I have no intention of giving up just yet,' says 80-year-old Paddy Jones

In 2001 the couple decided to move to Spain but sadly their move was delayed when David was diagnosed with leukaemia. After nine months of treatment at Russells Hall Hospital, he was well enough to go and they enjoyed a few happy months there before the disease returned. He died in March 2003.

Paddy took up Latin-American dance lessons to keep herself busy and rediscovered her love of dance. Her teacher Nico Espinosa, 40 years her junior, recognised her potential and together they started working on routines.

Since then she has been swung, flung, thrown and twirled around stages all over the world and together the couple won the Spanish version of Britain's Got Talent. They finished ninth in the UK version of the competition after Paddy soldiered on despite breaking her ribs just before the final round.

"I never expected the kind of reception I got after appearing on Britain's Got Talent," says Paddy. "It was incredible when Amanda pressed the golden buzzer because we were the first contestants on the show to get one and

we didn't know what to think. Nico was besides himself and burst into tears. It was an incredible feeling."

Amanda has been an absolutely wonderful person and a fantastic mentor. She is so down to earth and is incredibly supportive because she sent flowers to Spain when I cracked my ribs."

Since she started dancing again, Paddy, whose real name is Sarah Patricia Jones, has travelled to North and South America, Europe and Israel.

Peru

She competed in Showmatch, the Argentinian version of Strictly Come Dancing but failed to reach the final. The pair have also performed at the World Salsa Congress in Peru.

In 2010 she was entered into the Guinness World Record books for being the oldest salsa acrobatic dancer.

"I received a medal after appearing in the book which I received very much because it is a fantastic achievement," says Paddy. "It has been a very exciting few years and I have really enjoyed myself and since the show ended I have had a lot of job offers."

"Nico and I have been invited to appear on India's Got Talent as guest performers which is exciting. I have also been asked to perform on a cruise ship for three months but that is just too long because I have a home, a garden, a dog and a cat in Spain and I can't abandon them."

"I will carry on dancing for as long as I am able to. I have no intention of giving up just yet."

Last week Paddy marked her 80th birthday by giving a talk about her experiences to students at Wolverley CE Secondary School near Kidderminster.

The mother-of-four and grandmother-of-seven comes back to the West Midlands every four months from her home in Spain to visit friends and family. She says: "I miss Stourbridge, I love coming back and seeing everyone I know. I'm a Stourbridge girl at heart."

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School and the Blue Coat schools. This is supported and appreciated by parents, staff and the children.

The removal of these patrols will potentially put our children's safety at risk which is unacceptable in an age where cars are being used more and more. You only need to observe the traffic around Birmingham Road or on the corner of Teddesley Street in the morning and afternoon to appreciate the importance of the assisted crossings and how they help families.

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West Brom's real centre of attraction

ON a recent visit to West Bromwich, I was more than impressed by the cleanliness of the town centre and the layout of the bus station.

The superbly laid pavement areas were in pristine condition and free of litter and pigeon excrement. Furthermore, there was no fear of tripping over broken uneven surfaces.

The stainless steel street furniture was contemporary and thoughtfully placed in between and around well-designed market stalls. The bus station was equally impressive. Clean, spacious and more than welcoming. In contrast, Walsall town centre is overwhelmingly dirty and the bus station unwelcoming. Park Street, Leicester Street, Darwall Street and the bridge is

a mismatch of broken, chipped, cracked, uneven, and loose paving slabs.

Litter, ingrained pigeon excrement and dog mess is in abundance. Park Street arcade is similarly blighted with filth and graffiti.

The open plan bus station isn't fit for purpose. Dirty, claustrophobic, restricted and congested pedestrian walkways, obnoxious fumes, deafening screeching bus fan belts is often populated with smokers, alcoholics and groups of intimidating youths.

The great and good who work Walsall Council should take a walk around the town centre and be embarrassed at the disgraceful and unacceptable appearance that is Walsall town centre.

G MAHONEY, Walsall

Council need to sort centre

I DID enjoy reading Daniel Wainwright's column and analysis of Walsall Council, in the June 26 edition.

I hope that Walsall Labour Party will get up from sitting on its hands and engage with local issues.

One of which is to sort out the management of the Saddlers Centre (I assume they are in favour of high street shopping), where the lift to the first floor seems more or less permanently 'out of order'.

For the disabled, the frail, elderly and young parents with babies or toddlers, access to (and from) the first floor is at best difficult.

The duty of care for the safety of vulnerable shoppers should not be an option.

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Booze you lose £21bn

RECENT government figures showed that alcohol is costing the country more than £21bn a year, through crime, accidents and disease. Alarming, in many supermarkets it is cheaper to buy alcohol than a bottle of refreshing water.

All the retailers and government are offering is more health information on the dangers of excessive drinking rather than tackling the vagaries of the market system and pricing.

'Water water everywhere, nor any drop to drink' wrote Coleridge. Apparently, in Walsall we pay heavily for water but, we can buy alcohol at cheap rates.

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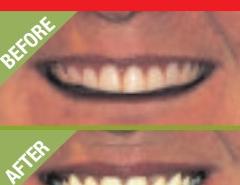
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Bridge rebuild work may be starting soon

Moves to rebuild a bridge to cope with extra traffic following multi-million pound plans for the electrification of the Chase Line could start by the end of the year.

Bloxwich Level Crossing has been earmarked to close for safety reasons, as trains are set to travel at up

to 70mph under the £30m scheme. One of the steps put forward to help the area deal with the closure is to reconstruct the nearby Central Drive bridge.

Work to widen the bridge could now start in December, subject to final confirmation and consultation with

the public later this year. Other steps being looked at include a footbridge where the current crossing is located and improving the Central Drive and Croxtalls Road junction to encourage traffic away from the Dudley Fields estate.

A report from Matt Crowton,

Boys just want to have fun at their school prom

MOST youngsters turn up to their school prom in a flashy limousine or classy sports car – but not this pair.

Best friends Sandeep Kumar and Ellison Tipton chose a more unfashionable mode of transport when they arrived on the back of mobility scooters.

As they pulled up outside the Village Hotel in Walsall for the Willenhall E-Act Academy Year 11 prom, the pair were greeted by roars of laughter and parents took videos of the moment.

Sixteen-year-old Ellison said: "We wanted to do something different, not just turn up in a limousine so we chose mobility scooters."

"I borrowed mine from my nan Sandra and Sandeep hired one from a shop."

"My nan had to show me how to drive it."

"It wasn't hard to pick it up. When we pulled up in the car park everyone was laughing. They thought it was hilarious and people were taking videos."

Carriage

The party was held last Tuesday, and senior assistant principal Leighton Thomas said everyone had enjoyed themselves.

He said: "We normally have youngsters turning up on a horse and carriage, limousines or sports cars. We've never had a mobility scooter before. Sandeep and Ellison are top lads."

"All the parents who were stood on the car park thought it was hilarious when the boys pulled up on their scooters."

"I was on car park duty and could



Sandeep Kumar and Ellison Tipton arriving on their mobility scooters

DJ in deal, yeah, yeah, yeah

A BEATLES fanatic who presents one of the world's most popular radio shows about the Fab Four has signed a sponsorship deal with Alblight-on-Brent ROK Stars.

Peter Dicks records Beatles and Beyond in the basement of his semi-detached home in Walsall.

His studio is crammed with every type of Beatles-themed merchandise – posters, photographs, toy Yellow Submarine, Fab Four liveried Corgi cars, and wall-to-wall vinyl. He said: "I am delighted the show will be asso-

ciated with ROK Stars." The firm was founded by US Billionaire John Paul DeJoria and UK serial entrepreneur Jonathan Kendrick.

Mr Dicks show started from a chance appearance on a local radio station. He gets correspondence from Beatles fans all over the world and even receives Christmas cards from Yoko Ono. As well as Beatles tracks, he plays any music with a link, no matter how tenuous, to John, Paul, George and Ringo – and not excluding Stuart Sutcliffe and Pete Best.

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Civic dignitaries set to lead Sunday service

THE Mayor and Mayoress will lead Walsall's annual Civic Sunday service it has been announced.

The service at St Matthew's Church on Sunday will be followed by the traditional buns and shillings ceremony which will see Mayor Councillor Pete Smith giving a silver coin and buns to children from the borough's Blue Coat Schools. The service will start at 10.30am and the Mayors of Solihull,

Coventry, Birmingham, Sandwell and Dudley are attending along with the High Sheriff.

Councillor Smith said: "I'd like to invite residents to come and join us for this special service too and enjoy the Buns and Shillings ceremony that follows at Walsall Town Hall. This is a local tradition that dates back to the sixteenth century and I understand it can be traced back to London in 1553

when youngsters from Christ's Hospital School – the predecessor of Blue Coat schools across the country – were entertained by the mayor."

People who wish to attend the church service are asked to arrive by 10.20am. Anyone going to the buns and shillings presentation are asked to confirm their attendance to Verity Edwards on 01922 652072 or via email on edwardsv@walsall.gov.uk

Proud Shelley-Marie



Walsall's Miss England finalist Shelley-Marie Sumner, aged 22, in action at the finals which were held in Torquay. MISS England beauty queen hopeful Shelley-Marie Sumner, from Walsall, has spoken of her disappointment at missing out on the crown, but says she was very proud to represent the area.

The dance and drama instructor, who is Miss Black Country, lost out to Miss Cambridgeshire. Shelley-Marie said: "My main goal was to make it into the final 15. I was tied with two other girls to get into the top 15 but didn't make it in the end."

"I was a bit disappointed but I still have my Miss Black Country title. I made it into the last 60 out of 20,000 girls. I'm still very proud."

Her preparations for the Miss England grand final were hampered after she came down with shingles. She was forced to spend five days in hospital.

Cinema will boast latest technology

A NEW Light Cinema to be built in Walsall town centre will be its first in the country to boast latest hi-tech screen technology, it has emerged.

The cinema complex is being planned at Walsall Waterfront with work due to begin in the coming months ahead of a summer 2015 launch.

The company says it will be fitted with a World Class Extreme Screen, the first of its kind installed by the firm in the UK.

The cinema forms part of a £12 million canalside development by Kier Property which will also include bars and restaurants. It comes as slightly amended proposals increasing the size of the scheme were given the go-ahead by the council.

Phil Dove, head of UK operations for Light Cinemas, said: "This will be the Light Cinemas first Extreme Screen with ATMOS in the UK, and we are delighted to provide it for the Walsall development. The new cinema due for completion in summer 2015 will therefore offer incomparable comfort

by Craig Hughes

and first class presentation for Walsall, on its large fully immersive screens within the cutting edge, nine-screen digital multiplex."

Kier development chief, James Nicholson, said: "The development of the whole scheme is going extremely well so far and the discussions our operating partner, The Light Cinemas, is having with World Class Extreme Screen highlights the first class leisure destination we are providing.

"Final discussions are also currently taking place with a series of leading bars, restaurants and cafés and we very much look forward to announcing these names."

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£21m Old Square centre revamp pressing ahead

IT'S been in the pipeline for years – but now the foundations are being laid for the multi-million pound transformation of Walsall town centre after demolition work was completed.

The long-awaited new Primark and Co-op will be built during the first phase of the £21m revamp of the Old Square Shopping Centre.

Work to tear down the former Tesco building and empty surrounding units has been taking place over the last few months.

Construction workers for contractor Morgan Sindall have been operating a 100ft-high piling rig to bore 128 piles or holes into the ground to create a concrete foundation to support the stores which will create 150 jobs.

The demolition phase which began in February this year has now been completed with only the front part of the former Tesco building remaining.

Reserves

This will be converted into a Midlands Co-op and the next stage will mark the start of the construction for the 54,000 sq ft development.

Walsall Council is contributing almost £8m from its own cash reserves to push forward the long-awaited project. It is aimed for both stores to begin trading in the town centre by next summer.

Regeneration chief, councillor Adrian Andrew, said: "Now the demolition works are complete we're able to start preparing the ground for construction," he said. "From August visitors to the town will start to notice some real changes to the site as this exciting development begins to take shape."

"We've invested a lot of time and money into getting this project off the ground, which is expected to create



WALSALL COPYRIGHT EXPRESS AND STAR PETER FLEMmICH 7/7/14

over 150 jobs when both stores open next year." The redevelopment of the Old Square Shopping Centre is just one of the projects which has been earmarked in the area.

A separate £12m scheme to transform the St Matthews Quarter with shops and restaurants has also been given the go-ahead by the council.

Walsall market, which is almost 800 years old, is to be given a £1.75m mil-

lion revamp and permanent home. A consultation was held at the start of the year and fears were raised about the robustness of the demountable stalls, whether a back-to-back layout will work.

Council chiefs recently agreed additional time to look at the market scheme following feedback from traders and the public following a consultation.

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Advertisement Feature NEW SQUARE SET TO CELEBRATE FIRST BIRTHDAY WITH CARNIVAL PARTY AND FAMILY FUN

A carnival themed party will arrive at New Square West Bromwich this Friday and Saturday to celebrate the shopping centre's first birthday.

The two-day extravaganza, taking place on the 11th and 12th July will include calypso music, dancing, family games, surf simulator, face painting, street food and even a limbo competition!

The carnival atmosphere will be created with live music from a steel pan calypso band and the smells from the Caribbean Food Shack – serving traditional street food. Shoppers will also be entertained by Limbo performers as they demonstrate their skills and flexibility – giving away prizes to those who are brave enough to get down low and give it a go themselves!

On Saturday New Square will resemble Rio as professional Carnival Dancers arrive to perform a number of show stopping routines around the shopping centre. Also on Saturday there will be a range of fun activities for the family to enjoy, such as a surf simulator, juice bikes and face painting.

Many of New Square's stores and restaurants will also be entering into the party spirit, with a range of offers and competitions. Outfit will be giving away hundreds of gift cards plus a free nail bar in store, while Nando's and Harvester have a range of activities planned including free sampling, fancy dress and giveaways.



New Square would like as many people as possible to get into the party spirit and is asking customers to take carnival themed selfies at the centre and post them on Facebook or Twitter using the hashtag #NewSquareselfie – the best picture will win a £100 worth of Outfit vouchers.

They'll also be a chance for visitors to win The Ultimate New Square Experience – the prize will include shopping and restaurant vouchers from retailers such as Bank, Outfit, Primark, Blue Inc, Nando's and Harvester, plus cinema ticket for Odeon and a host of other freebies!

All activities are free and take place between 11am-4pm.

For more information visit:
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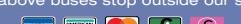


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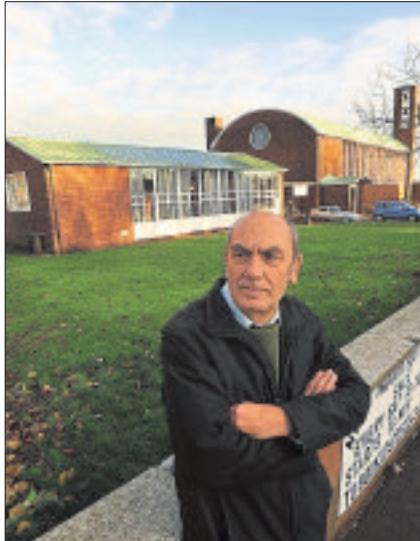
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£20k campaign starts over roof



Church warden Jeff Johnson is pictured outside the church which was targeted by copper thieves

WORSHIPPERS at a parish church where thieves ripped copper from the roof of the hall forcing a lunch club to cancel meetings have launched a £20,000 fundraising campaign to cover the cost of the repairs.

Two-thirds of the roof at All Saints' Parish Church, in Darlaston, were stolen after it was targeted two nights in a row, resulting in rain leaking into the kitchen.

Members have so far raised £7,000 towards a replacement. Now they are set to host two summer concerts that will include an appearance by opera singer Ralph Meanley, who was born in the town, to boost the appeal.

Birmingham's Phoenix Brass Band will kick off the series at the Walsall Road premises on Saturday. Tickets will cost £10. The second concert will feature Warley Male Voice Choir on July 19 with Mr Meanley, who has performed all over the world, the guest soloist. Tickets will cost £7.50 for this event.

A combined ticket for both events is available for £15 and will include light refreshments.

Pledge by firm over rebuild of fire-hit site

DEVELOPERS behind a £7.1 million rebuild of Wednesbury Leisure Centre say they will try to keep delays to the work to a minimum in the wake of a devastating arson attack.

Investigations are continuing into the blaze at the closed down centre, in High Bullen. A fire broke out there at around 12.30am last Tuesday.

It caused severe building damage and required the efforts of three fire crews to bring under control. But the blaze, which started at the rear of the centre and raged for three hours, destroyed about 25 per cent of the 1960s building.

Two firefighters even had to be taken to Sandwell General Hospital for precautionary check after suffering the effects of smoke inhalation and debris in their eyes. The site was handed over to developers Interserve following checks.

Interserve has been contracted by Sandwell Council to carry out work to create a new leisure centre there, boasting a 25-metre pool, learner pool, two dance studios and a fitness suite.

A spokesman for Interserve said the firm was working with emergency

services to investigate the damage.

"We are working with police and fire services to pinpoint what caused the fire, and are in touch with health and safety to ensure the site is safe, so that we can get in and assess the damage," he said.

The redevelopment of Wednesbury Leisure Centre is an important resource for the local community and we are working with Sandwell Council to ensure that disruption and delay is minimised as much as possible."

The centre closed in May ahead of the work to create a new leisure centre. While the existing sports hall will be retained, work will be carried out on a new complex. It was hoped it will be open by next summer.



Church warden Jeff Johnson is pictured outside the church which was targeted by copper thieves

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Molineux gardens in 1866 with the pavilion behind the house



Molineux Hotel when the Ring Road was being built



Molineux Hotel pictured back in the 1940s



An aerial view of Molineux in the 1950s

Molineux borne out of 'Rotton' beginnings

IN 1720 a man named John Rotton decided to build himself a house. We do not know who Mr Rotton was, but he may well have been a prominent bucklemaker, which was an important trade in Wolverhampton.

If the contractor he chose gathered his men by the Town Hall at the top of High Green (now Queen Square), which seems a likely spot they would have walked down High Green and turned right at the bottom into Tup Street (now North Street).

They would have passed the Red Lion and three Prebend houses, and Giffard House to a piece of land of about eight acres at the top of Wadham's Hill.

Mr Rotton had them line up his new house facing St Peter's Church, but at the rear there was a fine view over open countryside, stretching to Tet-

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

tenhall ridge, with Chillington Hall visible 10 miles away.

John Rotton only lived in his new house for about 20 years, because he died in 1743 and because he died owing a local ironmaster named John Molineux £700, his widow came to an agreement handing over the house in payment.

Impressed

John Molineux was so impressed with the house that he decided to make it the family's main residence, and it was greatly extended, with formal gardens stretching down the hill.

As time went on Wolverhampton expanded, Waterloo Road was cut across the hill and new housing built, and as the 19th Century progressed, a whole new suburb, Newhampton, was built, and instead of a fine view across open

countryside, Molineux House looked out on ranks of smoky rooftops.

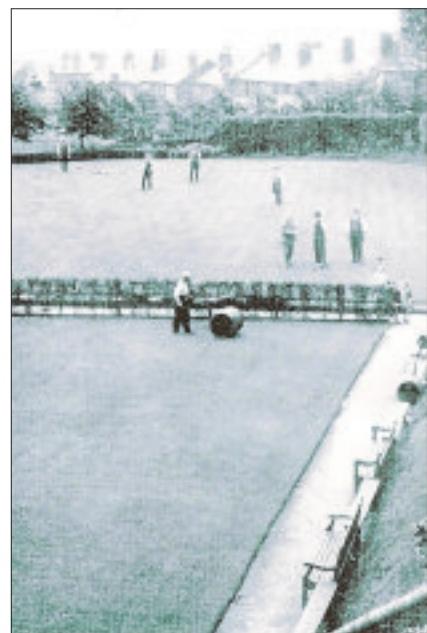
In 1860 the Molineux family sold the house and by 1870 it had been turned into a hotel, with its gardens becoming Wolverhampton's first public park, albeit with an entry fee.

To bring in the crowds various sporting activities were promoted, and cycle races in particular drew in crowds of up to 20,000 people.

Across town football team borne out of St Luke's church was drawing large crowds at its Dudley Road ground, and was looking for a bigger stadium.

A deal was struck, the lake in Molineux Gardens was filled in, and a football pitch and stands were constructed and Wolverhampton Wanderers began its long relationship with the ground which still retains the name Molineux.

How fortunate that the name of the original owner of the house did not adhere to the property, because it would now be Rotton House and Rotton Stadium.



The bowling greens at the back of Molineux

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Teen swimmer picks up a silver medal



Adam-James Lamb, aged 17, who won a medal in the BSC National Championships representing the West Midlands

A COLLEGE student swam his way to a silver medal at one of the largest annual sporting events in the UK.

Adam-James Lamb, aged 17, who is studying a level two AIQ diploma in active leisure at Walsall College, swam away with a team silver medal after representing the West Midlands region at the 36th BCS National Championships.

He has been swimming competitively since he was 10 and came first in the 100m backstroke, third in the 200m individual medley and second in the relay. He also smashed his previous personal best record by over two seconds in the backstroke. The teenager competed against the UK's best swimming talents and became the first Walsall College student in its history to be selected for the 16-person West Midlands team. He completes up to nine training sessions each week at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre.

Hospital's expansion cash hope falls short

A MAJOR expansion of Walsall Manor Hospital could face being scaled back after falling more than £6 million short of funding.

A multi-million pound overhaul of the site is being planned including a new critical care unit, an A&E revamp, maternity expansion and decent ward. However, full funding for the initial plans worth more than £30m is so far not in place.

The millions are to help the Manor cope with rising numbers of patients from Staffordshire. It comes after the Government allocated £4.4m less than the £14m Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust requested to upgrade, in light of the down-grade of Stafford Hospital.

Health bosses say they are now exploring ways to secure all the funding needed in a bid to go ahead with the full expansion and cope with demand. There were initial proposals to invest £36m, but a second new ward is not deemed as necessary at this stage, bringing the cost down to £31m.

The trust is able to contribute £15m itself towards the revamp, which has been earmarked for over the next three years. Ian Baines, director of finance

By Craig Hughes

and performance at the trust, said: "Unfortunately we did not receive the total allocation of funding that we requested from the Trust Special Administrators (TSA) following the downgrading of services at Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust.

"This has meant that there is a gap in our funding which may mean we are not able to respond as fully as we would like to increasing demands from areas such as South Staffordshire.

"We are continuing to explore the options to secure funding with our partner organisations and the NHS Trust Development Agency so that we can continue with our plans for redevelopment in the future, enabling us to cope with higher demands."

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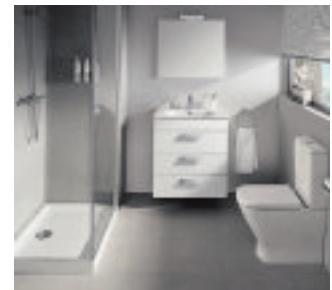


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Ian steams ahead with sci-fi display

Focus on Bloxwich

BODY armour, weapons and other props from popular science fiction films and computer games have been on show at an exhibition.

All of the items which were display at Wolverhampton's Central Library, on Snow Hill, were put together by Bloxwich sci-fi enthusiast Ian Edwards.

He's fascinated by steampunk, a sub-genre of science fiction that typically features steam-powered machinery inspired by 19th century industrialism.

Mr Edwards, aged 50, of Minewood Close, Bloxwich, said: "I thought it was a good way of showing people what's available within the sci-fi world, whether it's inspiring people into taking up art, sculpting props or painting."

"You look around and you really hope that there are visionaries out there. That's the beauty of these sorts of conventions."

Aerospace worker Mr Edwards has drawn from a multitude of television shows, films, comic books and computer games.

But more than anything else, it was Thunderbirds co-creator Gerry Anderson who inspired him as a child.

He is hoping his props, including helmets, body armour and futuristic weapons, can do the same for others.

He makes them using a variety of materials, often including old camping mats that he sprays and weathers, using his 20-year-old son Tom as a model.

He said: "For me it's not a job, it's purely a hobby. I look at the costumes in video games and design them. You have to make them look fit for purpose and as though they do a job."

Big 100th for Brownies



Crimesolving in the science tent, Hannah Martin, aged eight, and Grace Bradley, nine, from 2nd Bloxwich Brownies

THEY'VE been promising to do their best for 100 years and thousands of Brownies from the Black Country, including a Bloxwich troupe, did just that to celebrate the centenary of the organisation's formation.

Two thousand girls from Girlguiding West Mercia were at Weston Park for the Big Brownie Birthday, part of nationwide celebrations. At Weston Park, tribute acts to One Direction and Katy Perry performed. Marion Watkins, county commissioner for Girlguiding West Mercia, said:

"This is something that has been planned for around two years. We're really proud of the celebration."

Other activities ranged from yoga to kick boxing sessions – a far cry from the days of the Brownies' formation.

It was in 1908 when Robert Baden-Powell published Scouting for Boys but the book gathered a girl audience and in 1910, his sister, Agnes formed the Girl Guides Association with the Brownies formed in 1914 as a junior section.

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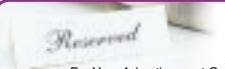
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Pupils' artwork is put in the frame



Meadow View pupils Aaron Phillips and Olivia Marshall, who are both aged eight, with some of the work

THE artistic work of hundreds of pupils in the Black Country has gone on display as part of a school exhibition.

Children at Meadow View JMI in Pheasey were asked to produce their own piece of art. All 355 young people took part in the exhibition which was based on the theme of nature. They were able to use a range of medium including 3D. Parents of the school in Frampton Way were invited to see the fruits of their labours.

The frames were provided and the display was organised by art co-ordinator Claire Campbell. She said they were delighted with the range and quality of the children's work and the excellent response from the parents who visited the exhibition. It is one of a series of activities at the school.

Earlier this year children from Years 5 and 6 worked alongside one of the world's pre-eminent Baroque Orchestras "The English Concert" and its musicians.

The youngsters began by learning about how to become a choir and increasing their knowledge of technical musical vocabulary.

They were introduced to the work of composer George Friedric Handel and then given the opportunity to visit Birmingham Town Hall for a guided tour.

Six weeks of delays on way for motorists

MOTORISTS will face six weeks of delays and diversions when a main route is closed for rail improvement work.

Improvements are being carried out at the level crossing in Noose Lane, Willenhall, and is due to start next week. A road closure is expected to be in place throughout the scheme as part of Network Rail's resignalling of the railway.

A diversion route is being finalised ahead of work getting under way on Saturday, but there are concerns it will lead to traffic being forced into residential areas.

Willenhall councillor Ian Shires said: "It is going to create issues. It is an inconvenience for people. But at the end of the day, once it is done and finished it will improve the use of it and the safety aspect of it. There are quite a lot of cars that cut through Noose Lane."

Renewed

Spokesman for Network Rail, Jon Crampton, said: "As part of the resignalling of the railway in the Wolverhampton area, Noose Lane level crossing will be closed from July 19 until September. The crossing equipment will be renewed and more modern and reliable signalling equipment installed.

"The resignalling project is part of our commitment to provide a more reliable, effi-

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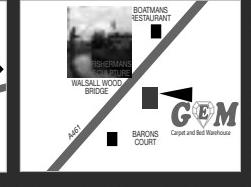
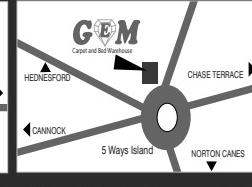
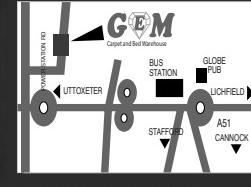
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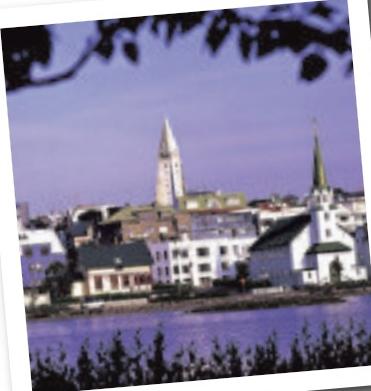
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- Traditional Christmas Day lunch
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- Tour of the New Forest National Park
- Free time in Bournemouth
- Entertainment programme
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Skills boost for youngsters at council



Jaswant Sembhi, work experience co-ordinator and Kevin Dwyer, council web manager, with the youngsters

FIVE college students have boosted their job prospects and learned new skills following a Walsall council work placement.

Media and ICT students Ashley Coupland, aged 18, Jack Rowland, 17, Annie Constable, 19, Hayley Leaver, 17, and James Russell, 17, did a 10-week work experience placement with the communications and web management teams. Annie and Ashley helped to develop a new registry office website and kept members of the public up to date during the council's European election coverage.

While Jack, Hayley and James put together case studies and press releases, took promotional photographs of businesses and interviewed apprentices at Walsall's Manor Hospital.

Walsall College's work experience co-ordinator Jaswant Sembhi said: "Real work experience can have a real impact for both the student and the employer and I'm pleased to say that Walsall Council has agreed to continue this successful partnership by taking on further students from September onwards."

Schools in £1m staff bill

MORE than £1 million was spent on agency staff at schools across Walsall in just five months, it has emerged.

The outlay on temporary workers was made in the borough between January and May, according to latest figures.

Around £1.09m was spent on covering the likes of sickness absence, maternity cover and staff who are off site

for other reasons. Some schools used a number of agencies and the amount spent ranged from £8.88 to £46,101 in the period January 1 to May 16.

Councillor Mohammed Arif, portfolio holder for children's services at Walsall Council, said there are occasions where schools have to use supply staff. "Making sure that children have the very best chance to learn and achieve well every day is a key priority in every Walsall school," he said.

"From time to time teachers and support staff may be supporting off site activities, involved in professional development or on sick leave. Where there are gaps that can't be filled internally, schools will make use of supply staff, through their delegated school budgets."

It comes after an overhaul of the education system in Walsall which saw the council terminate its £345 million contract with private firm Serco.

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CHOICE**Amanda Mealing****BBC1**

- 6.00 Breakfast.** **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. **12.00** Homes Under the Hammer. **(R) 1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. **2.00** Live Athletics: Glasgow Grand Prix. Coverage of the Diamond League event. **5.20** Celebrity Mastermind. **(R) 5.50** Pointless Celebrities. **(R)**
- 6.40 BBC News:** Regional News; Weather.
- 7.00 A Question of Sport:** Super Saturday. Olympic gold-medal-winning swimmer Rebecca Adlington, Strictly Come Dancing star Anton Du Beke, TV presenter Gethin Jones and BBC Breakfast's Louis Minchin take part.
- 7.40 The National Lottery: Break the Safe.** Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs of contestants – West Midlands sisters-in-law, sign language interpreters from Yorkshire and a Luton father and daughter – compete for the chance to play for the money in the safe, with the amount depending on how much they have earned in the previous rounds.
- 8.30 Casualty.** A drugs counsellor enlists the help of a former addict to carry out a carjacking in his desperate bid for money – but when he ends up coughing up blood, it turns out there is something he has been keeping from his wife. Cal is negligent when dealing with the carjacking victim – something that doesn't go unnoticed by Connie – and a leukaemia survivor is suspected of hurting her baby, while Tess returns to the department with a new-found sense of direction in her life.
- 9.20 BBC News:** Weather.
- 9.40 Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl.** (2003) A buccaneer and a blacksmith commander a British ship and set sail in pursuit of a pirate captain who has kidnapped a colonial governor's daughter. However, their quarry and his crew are under a curse that turns them into living skeletons – and makes them impossible to kill. Swashbuckling fantasy adventure, starring Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley; National Lottery Update.
- 11.50 Film: The Ruins.** (2008) Horror, starring Jena Malone and Shawn Ashmore.
- 1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **1.20 BBC News.**

BBC2

- 6.00 This Is BBC Two.** **6.35 Film:** Blood on the Moon. (1948) **8.00** MOTD Kickabout. **(R) 8.30** World Cup Films. **9.45 Coast.** **10.05** The Living Planet. **(R) 11.00** Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age. **(R) 11.30** Great British Railway Journeys. **(R) 12.00** Rick Stein's Spain. **(R) 1.00** Live Golf: The Women's British Open. Coverage of the third day at Royal Birkdale Golf Club. **5.00** Escape to the Country. **(R) 5.45** Flog It! Trade Secrets. **6.15 Film:** Catch Me If You Can. (2002) The story of Frank Abagnale Jr, who found notoriety as a teenage conning and charming his way across America. Posing as a pilot, a doctor and a lawyer, Frank was able to find an extravagant lifestyle while outwitting the FBI at every turn. Fact-based drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks, Martin Sheen and James Brolin.
- 8.30 Dad's Army.** The air-raid wardens have to share the church hall with the Home Guard after their HQ is bombed, but Hodges' men are terribly disruptive and soon cause mayhem. **(R)**
- 9.00 The Men Who Made Us Spend.** New series. Jacques Peretti investigates the methods used to persuade people to buy consumer goods and confronts the men and women behind bestselling products and successful sales strategies. In the first edition, he examines how product lifespans hold the key to consumerism and explores the origins of planned obsolescence, revealing how a group of electrical manufacturers organised a light-bulb cartel in the 1920s. He asks a senior executive at a home furnishings store why his firm still encourages repeated discarding and purchasing, and talks to a former senior Apple employee about how the company's new focus on fashion keeps people buying even when technological innovation slows.
- 10.00 Film:** The Shipping News. (2001) A small community helps a widower rebuild his family life when he and his daughter go to live with his estranged aunt. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey, Julianne Moore and Judi Dench.
- 11.45 Golf: Scottish Open.** Hazel Irvine presents highlights from the third round at Royal Aberdeen, where America's Phil Mickelson entered as the defending champion.
- 12.45 Film:** Black Sheep. (2006) **2.10** This is BBC Two.

ITV

- 6.00 CITV:** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Dino Dan. **(R) 6.35** Dino Dan. **(R) 6.50** Cannimals. **(R) 7.00** Cannimals. **(R) 7.05** Scooty. **(R) 7.20** Digimon Fusion. **(R) 7.45** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. **(R) 8.00** Adventure Time. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Hungry Sailors. **(R) 10.25** Murder, She Wrote. **(R) 11.20** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** Storage Hoarders. **(R) 12.30** Dinner Date. **(R) 1.30** Peter Andre's 60 Minute Makeover. **(R) 2.30** The Nation's Favourite Motown Song. **(R) 4.00** Tipping Point. **(R) 5.00** Film: Scooby-Doo. (2002) Comedy adventure, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar.
- 6.35 Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.45 ITV News:** Weather.
- 7.00 You've Been Framed!** Surreal comedy from the mind of Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' home videos. Al ed Jones auditions for Daybreak, while Chris Moyles and family have fun in Liverpool, and hopes of a black-tie event featuring ballroom dancing will ease tensions after the previous night's arguments. **(R)**
- 7.30 The Restoration Man.** George Clarke catches up with Simon Hooper and partner Victoria, who tried to convert a Grade I-listed medieval hall into a unique home in Cardiff. **(R)**
- 8.00 Grand Designs.** Kevin McCloud meets artists Indi and Rebecca, who are planning to construct a modern, larch-clad home on the Isle of Skye, with a second hand-crafted building alongside to use as their studio, all on a tight budget of £150,000. They have been saving for years, but making it happen will mean taking on the savage weather, not to mention the sceptical locals – and if that weren't enough, most of the work is being done by one man, local builder Donald. **(R)**
- 9.00 Film: Knight and Day.** (2010) A woman has a chance encounter with a rogue secret agent, who has been framed as a traitor and is on the run from his own superiors. Realising she is in danger for knowing too much, he kidnaps her and drags her along on his desperate mission to clear his name. Comedy adventure, with Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz.
- 11.15 The IT Crowd.** Philip from the sixth floor asks Jen on a date – but Roy and Moss invite themselves along. Comedy, starring Katherine Parkinson, Chris O'Dowd and Richard Ayoade. **(R)**
- 11.50 The IT Crowd.** Denholm's death spells trouble for Jen and Roy – until support appears in the form of a mysterious stranger. **(R)**
- 12.25 The IT Crowd.** (R) **12.55 Film:** Rushmore. (1998) **2.30** Hollyoaks. **(R) 4.40** Deal or No Deal. **(R) 5.35** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. **(R) 5.40** The Hoobs. **(R)**

CHANNEL 4

- 6.05 The Hoobs. (R) 6.30** Trans World Sport. **6.50** Film: World Superbike Championship. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** Weekend Kitchen. **10.00** Frasier. **(R) 10.30** Frasier. **(R) 11.00** The Big Bang Theory. **(R) 11.25** The Big Bang Theory. **(R) 11.55** The Simpsons. **(R) 12.30** The Tomorrow People. **1.20** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Newmarket, York and Ascot. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. **(R) 4.40** Come Dine with Me. **(R) 5.10** Come Dine with Me. **(R) 5.40** Come Dine with Me. **(R)**
- 6.15 Come Dine with Me:** Jilly Pollock hosts the fifth and final party in Liverpool, and hopes her black-tie event featuring ballroom dancing will ease tensions after the previous night's arguments. **(R)**
- 6.45 Channel 4 News.**
- 7.05 The Restoration Man.** George Clarke catches up with Simon Hooper and partner Victoria, who tried to convert a Grade I-listed medieval hall into a unique home in Cardiff. **(R)**
- 8.00 MH30: The Flight That Vanished.** Documentary examining the theories and speculation surrounding the fate of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which was lost during its scheduled journey from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing airport on March 8. **(R)**
- 9.00 Big Brother.** Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house, including coverage of the latest eviction as seen from the point of view of the contestants, who share their diary-room thoughts on their recently departed friend – or enemy.
- 10.00 The Trial of Gillian Taylforth.** Dramatic reconstruction based on transcripts and media coverage of the 1994 court case in which the former EastEnders star and her partner sued the Sun newspaper for libel.
- 11.00 Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole.** The documentary examining the lives of unemployed people visits Hull, which has one of the highest unemployment rates and lowest average weekly wages in the UK. **(R)**
- 12.00 Big Brother's Bit on the Psych.** **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Sky Scanner: London's Cheesegrater. **(R) 4.00** House Doctor. **(R) 4.25** Make It Big. **(R) 4.50** The Funky Valley Show. **(R) 5.00** Angels of Jarn. **(R) 5.10** Roary the Racing Car. **(R) 5.20** Angels of Jarn. **(R) 5.30** The Funky Valley Show. **(R) 5.40** Roary the Racing Car. **(R)**

CHANNEL 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!** **10.00** Access. **10.05** Meerkat Manor. **(R) 10.30** The Dog Rescues with Alan Davies. **(R) 11.30** Big Brother: Eviction. **(R) 12.55** NCIS. **(R) 1.50** NCIS. **(R) 2.45** NCIS. **(R) 3.40** Film: Pork Chop Hill. (1959) Korean War drama, starring Gregory Peck. **5.40** Film: Fighter Attack. (1953) Second World War drama, starring Sterling Hayden.
- 7.00 Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents highlights from the fourth day of the First Test of the five-match series from Trent Bridge in Nottingham, England were eventually bowled out for 544 in their second innings when the sides met here in 2011, leaving the tourists needing 478 runs to win. However, Tim Bresnan returned excellent figures of 5/48 as India were skittled out for just 158. Commentary and analysis by Geoffrey Boycott, Michael Vaughan and Simon Hughes.
- 7.55 5 News.**
- 8.00 MH30: The Flight That Vanished.** Documentary examining the theories and speculation surrounding the fate of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which was lost during its scheduled journey from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing airport on March 8. **(R)**
- 9.00 Big Brother.** Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house, including coverage of the latest eviction as seen from the point of view of the contestants, who share their diary-room thoughts on their recently departed friend – or enemy.
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- 11.00 Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole.** The documentary examining the lives of unemployed people visits Hull, which has one of the highest unemployment rates and lowest average weekly wages in the UK. **(R)**
- 12.00 Big Brother's Bit on the Psych.** **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Sky Scanner: London's Cheesegrater. **(R) 4.00** House Doctor. **(R) 4.25** Make It Big. **(R) 4.50** The Funky Valley Show. **(R) 5.00** Angels of Jarn. **(R) 5.10** Roary the Racing Car. **(R) 5.20** Angels of Jarn. **(R) 5.30** The Funky Valley Show. **(R) 5.40** Roary the Racing Car. **(R)**

DIGITAL

- BBC Three**
- 7.00 Top Gear** **8.00** John Newman & Katy B @ T 9.00 Pharrell Williams & Rudimental @ T 10.00 Paolo Nutini @ T 11.30 Family Guy 1.45 American Dad! 2.30 Primate 4.00 Close
- BBC Four**
- 7.00 Lost Land of the Tiger** **8.00** The Story of Science – Power, Proof and Passion **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.55** Imagine – Jimi Hendrix: Hear My Train a Comin' **12.25** Guitar Heroes at the BBC **1.25** Top of the Pops: 1979 1.55 Lost Land of the Tiger **2.55** The Story of Science – Power, Proof and Passion **3.55** Close
- ITV2**
- 12.10 I Wanna Marry "Harry"** **1.10** The Only Way Is Essex **2.40** Film: Beethoven (1991) **4.25** 100% You've Been Framed! **5.25** You've Been Framed and Famous! **6.30** Film: Pearl Harbor (2001) Romantic drama, starring Ben Affleck and Kate Beckinsale. **10.00** Film: The Matrix Reloaded (2003) Sci-Fi thriller sequel, starring Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Laurence Fishburne and Hugo Weaving. **1.40** Crazy Beaches **2.30** You've Been Framed! **5.00** Teleshopping **9.00** Teleshopping
- ITV3**
- 12.45 Endeavour** **1.00** Bomb Girls **1.50** Movies Now **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping
- ITV4**
- 11.00 The Cycle Show** **12.00** Tour de France Highlights **1.00** Tour de France Live. Stage eight from Tomblaine to Gerardmer La Mauselein. **5.00** Police, Camera, Action! **5.25** Highway Patrol **6.00** Goodwood: Cars of the Future **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00** Hornblower (2003) Sci-Fi thriller sequel, starring Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Laurence Fishburne and Hugo Weaving. **1.40** The Magauif Weekender **1.40** Crazy Beaches **2.30** You've Been Framed! **5.00** Teleshopping
- Film4**
- 11.00 Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.** **12.00** The Big Bang Theory **1.30** New Girl **2.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** **10.00** The 9.00 Film: Coming to America (1988) **11.20** The Big Bang Theory **12.00** Alias Smith and Jones **1.00** Tour de France Highlights **2.00** Gareth Bale: Welsh Galactico **2.55** ITV4 Desperate Housewives
- Film5**
- 11.00 The Overlanders** (1946) **1.00** Rio (2011) **3.00** Zulu (1964) **5.50** Australia (2008) **9.00** Die Hard 2 (1990) **11.20** The Others (2001) **1.25** Final Destination 3 (2006) **3.20** Close

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CHOICE

Anna Maxwell Martin

The Night Watch
(BBC2, 9pm)

Based on the acclaimed novel by Tipping the Velvet author Sarah Waters, this one-off drama opens in 1947, when the main characters, along with the rest of the country, are trying to rebuild their lives, and then works backwards through the 1940s to see just what happened to them during the war years. We are introduced to Kay (Anna Maxwell Martin), who ceaselessly roams the streets as if haunted by some tragic loss. Meanwhile, Helen (Claire Foy) and Viv (Jodie Whittaker) run a marriage bureau but their own personal lives are less than perfect – Viv seems unable to break free from her married lover, and Helen is pursuing a tumultuous relationship with a woman named Julia (Anna Wilson-Jones).

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.** **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Alan Hansen: Player and Pundit. (R) **2.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.15** Wanted Down Under. (R) **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** BBC News; Regional News. Weather.
- 6.00 Countryfile.** Matt Baker explores Whiteford Burrows sand dunes in Gower, south Wales. Adam Henson reveals the wonders of wool and cameraman Richard Taylor-Jones is on the lookout for tree cubes.
- 7.00 Match of the Day Live.** Coverage of the final at the Estadio do Maracanã in Rio de Janeiro (Kick-off 8.00pm), where the successors to 2010 champions Spain are crowned. This 20th staging of the tournament has been largely lauded as a great success, with a glut of goals, attacking football and some of the leading players in the world bringing their club form to the international stage. While several of the leading European nations made early exits, including Italy, England and the defending champions, the South American and CONCACAF sides demonstrated their ability, leaving few clues as to which team could find the consistency required to lift the trophy. A number of shock results added to the excitement and unpredictability of the tournament, but there have been relatively few surprises in the showpiece match over the years, with the last one being France's victory over Brazil in 1998, and before that, arguably Italy's triumph against West Germany in 1982 following their slow start to that campaign. A European success remains unlikely, especially as all four stagings of the World Cup in South America have been won by sides from that continent, with the last one being Argentina on home soil in 1978. The events of extra-time and penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to change.
- 10.30 BBC News:** Regional News.
- 10.55 Live at the Apollo.** Greg Davies hosts another session of stand-up at Hammersmith Apollo in west London. (R)
- 11.25 Film:** *Man of the Year.* (2006) Comedy, with Robin Williams and Christopher Walken.
- 1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.00** This Is BBC Two. **6.20** Film: Tender Comrade. (R) **8.00** Monty Don's French Gardens. (R) **9.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. **12.00** Rick Stein's Spain. **1.00** Live Golf: The Women's British Open. Coverage of the fourth day at Royal Birkdale Golf Club. **5.20** Natural World: The Bat Man of Mexico. (R)
- 6.20** *Flog It!* People are invited to try to make money by selling their antiques at auction. (R)
- 7.20** *Film: Shall We Dance?* (2004) A bored workaholic lawyer becomes fixated with a beautiful dance teacher and enrolls in her class. When she flatly rejects his advances, he decides to concentrate on perfecting his footwork – but keeps the new hobby a secret, making his wife very suspicious about the amount of time he is spending away from home. Romantic comedy, starring Richard Gere.
- 9.00** *The Night Watch.* One-off drama adapted from the best-selling novel by Sarah Waters following the love affairs of four Londoners through three periods of the 1940s. Kay roams the streets, haunted by a traumatic personal loss, while Helen and Viv run a marriage bureau, helping people rebuild their shattered lives by finding love – but their own complicated relationships are less easy to solve. Meanwhile, Duncan's fragile existence is threatened when a face from his past reappears. Anna Maxwell Martin, Claire Foy, Jodie Whittaker and Harry Treadaway star.
- 10.30 Mock the Week.** Josh Widdicombe, Gary Delaney and Tiffany Stevenson are among the guests joining regular panelists Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons on the topical comedy quiz. (R)
- 11.00 QI XL.** Extended edition. Victoria Coren Mitchell, Sue Perkins and the Rev Richard Coles join Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of unusual questions about knights and knaves. (R)
- 11.45 Film:** *Scottish Open.* Hazel Irvine presents action from the fourth and final round at Royal Aberdeen, where Phil Mickelson entered as the defending champion.
- 12.45 Sign Zone.** Countryfile. (R) **1.45** Holby City. (R) **2.45** Match of the Day: FIFA World Cup Replay. **4.30** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

- 6.00** CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.20** Digitmon Fusion. (R) **7.45** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.00** Bedtime Stories. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** May the Best House Win. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** Love Your Garden. **12.25** Long Lost Family. (R)
- 1.30** Film: Columbo: Strange Bedfellows. (1995) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Rod Steiger. **3.30** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.45** ITV News; Weather.
- 6.00** *Catchphrase.* Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000. (R)
- 7.00** *FIFA World Cup Live 2014.* Coverage of the final at the Estadio do Maracanã in Rio de Janeiro (Kick-off 8.00pm), where the successors to 2010 champions Spain are crowned. The Spaniards needed extra time to overcome the Netherlands in a tempestuous affair four years ago in South Africa, with Andres Iniesta striking after John Heitinga had been sent off for the losing side. However, Spain were unable to successfully defend their title this time around, losing 5-1 to the Dutch in their opening contest, before a further defeat against Chile sealed their fate just two games into their tournament. Argentina and Brazil began their campaigns among the favourites and they will know history is on their side if either have qualified for this encounter, as a team from South America has prevailed every time the continent has hosted a World Cup. In the event of extra-time and penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to change.
- 10.30 ITV News;** Weather.
- 10.45 The Greatest Footie Ads Ever.** Paddy McGuinness presents this one-off programme guiding viewers through 30 years of incredible, bizarre, spectacular and much-loved football commercials. (R)
- 11.45 The Cube.** Philip Schofield hosts. (R)
- 12.40 The Store.** **2.55** Motorsport UK. **3.45** ITV Nightscreen. **4.15** May the Best House Win. (R) **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

- 6.05** Ironman 2014. **6.30** Ironman 2014. **7.00** Cholmondeley Pageant of Power. **7.30** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.10** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottie Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.30** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **8.35** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Access. (R) **10.05** World's Scariest Misses. (R) **10.55** Big Brother. (R) **11.55** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.55** Film: See No Evil, Hear No Evil. (1988) **2.45** Film: Stand By Me. (1986) **4.20** Film: Click. (2006)
- 6.30** *Criminals: Caught on Camera.* Justice Nick Wallis joins police forces around the nation to discover how CCTV and technological advances are helping to bring criminals to justice. (R)
- 7.00** *Cricket on 5.* England v India. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the fifth day of the First Test of the five-match series from Trent Bridge in Nottingham.
- 7.55** *News Weekend.*
- 8.00** *The Boy They Call Fish.* The story of a Vietnamese teenager who has a rare condition that gives him scaly, fish-like skin, and his unlikely friendship with the Essex grandmother devoted to helping him. (R)

CHANNEL 5

- 6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Remy the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.10** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottie Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.30** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **8.35** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Access. (R) **10.05** World's Scariest Misses. (R) **10.55** Big Brother. (R) **11.55** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.55** Film: See No Evil, Hear No Evil. (1988) **2.45** Film: Stand By Me. (1986) **4.20** Film: Click. (2006)
- 6.30** *Criminals: Caught on Camera.* Justice Nick Wallis joins police forces around the nation to discover how CCTV and technological advances are helping to bring criminals to justice. (R)
- 7.00** *Cricket on 5.* England v India. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the fifth day of the First Test of the five-match series from Trent Bridge in Nottingham.
- 7.55** *News Weekend.*
- 8.00** *The Boy They Call Fish.* The story of a Vietnamese teenager who has a rare condition that gives him scaly, fish-like skin, and his unlikely friendship with the Essex grandmother devoted to helping him. (R)

DIGITAL

- BBC Three**
- 7.00** Don't Tell the Bride. **8.00** Bastille & Sam Smith @ T 9.00 Time Tempah & Jake Bugg @ 10.30 Arctic Monkeys & Example @ 11.30 Family Guy. **12.15** American Dad! **1.00** Russell Howard's Good News. **2.00** Stacey Dooley in the USA: Homeless in Detroit. **3.00** Slum Survivors. **4.00** Close
- BBC Four**
- 7.00** Natural World. **8.00** Ford's Dagenham Dream. **9.00** A Century in Film: From Scotland with Love. **10.15** The Sky at Night. **10.45** Film: Everlasting Moments (2008) **12.30** Britain's Most Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned. **1.30** More Dangerous Songs: And the Banned Played on **2.30** Ford's Dagenham Dream. **3.30** Decisive Weapons. **4.00** Close
- ITV2**
- 1.00** America's Got Talent. **3.40** You've Been Framed! **4.10** Film: Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **6.00** Jurassic Park III (2001) **7.45** Film: Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex (2005) **11.50** Film: The Matrix Revolutions (2003) **1.20** TV OD 1.45 You've Been Framed and Famous! **2.35** Life's Funniest Moments. **3.00** Teleshopping
- ITV3**
- 11.25** A Touch of Frost. **1.30** Wycliffe. **2.45** Film: Carry On Follow That Camel (1967) **4.40** Inspector Morse. **7.00** Endeavour. **1.00** Wycliffe. **1.55** William and Mary. **2.45** ITV3 Nightscreen. **3.15** Emmerdale
- ITV4**
- 12.00** Duck Dynasty. **1.00** Tour de France Highlights. **2.00** Tour de France Live. Stage nine from Geradmer to Mulhouse. **5.00** Storage Wars. **6.00** Goodwood Festival of Speed. **7.00** Tour de France Highlights. **8.00** Storage Wars. **9.00** Film: Doom (2005) **11.05** Film: The Wicker Man (1973) **1.00** Tour de France Highlights and Pizza Club. **2.30** Police, Camera, Action! **3.00** Teleshopping. **3.30** The Store. **5.30** Teleshopping
- E4**
- 12.30** How I Met Your Mother. **6.00** The 100. **7.00** The Big Bang Theory. **8.00** Film: Hairspray (2007) **10.15** The Big Bang Theory. **12.25** Rude Tube. **12.25** The Mindy Project. **12.50** How I Met Your Mother. **1.25** Rules of Engagement. **2.15** The Ricky Gervais Show. **3.35** Hollyoaks
- Film4**
- 11.00** The Admirable Crichton (1957) **1.00** Planet of the Apes (1968) **3.15** Avatar (2009) **6.35** Star Trek (2009) **9.00** X-Men: The Last Stand (2006) **11.05** The Final Destination (2009) **12.40** Vanilla Sky (2001) **3.25** Close

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Film Choices

Monday

Assumed Killer, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A news reporter trying to prove a series of recent murders were the work of a serial killer is involved in a car crash and loses her memory. She begins to suspect that her own husband may be the murderer, and tries to piece together the events of the crash that she has forgotten. Thriller, starring Barbie Castro. (2013)

Tuesday

Escape from Polygamy, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A widowed mother joins a religious cult and goes to live in their remote compound, where her teenage daughter falls in love with the son of the group's leader. When the preacher demands that the girl marry him, the two youngsters plan to escape together. Drama, starring Haley Lu Richardson, Jack Falahee and Mary McCormack. (2013)

Wednesday

North West Frontier, BBC2, 1.10pm

A British officer saves an Indian prince from an uprising and tries to escort him and the boy's nanny to safety on board a dilapidated train. However, his mission is jeopardised when it becomes clear there is a traitor on board, leading to a deadly game of cat and mouse. Action adventure, starring Lauren Bacall, Kenneth More, Herbert Lom and Wilfrid Hyde White. (1959)



American Pie, Wednesday, ITV, 10.40pm

American Pie, ITV, 10.40pm

Four teenage boys make a solemn pact to lose their virginity before the high-school prom, and though their antics cause them huge embarrassment and public humiliation, the friends also learn about love and affection in their relations with the opposite sex. Coming-of-age comedy, starring Jason Biggs, Shannon Elizabeth, Chris Klein, Alyson Hannigan, Mena Suvari, Seann William Scott and Eugene Levy. (1999)

Thursday

The Nightmare Nanny, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman reluctantly hires a live-in nanny to look after her three-year-old daughter so she can return to work, but fears the child is growing closer to her minder than her mother. Thriller, starring Ashley Scott and Mekenna Melvin. (2013)

Friday

What Happens in Vegas, Channel 4, 12.05am

Two strangers accidentally booked into the same hotel room in Las Vegas spend a night on the town together. After a wild and drunken time in the casinos, they wake up to find they are now a married couple, and later win \$3million which they both have a claim to – leading to a battle of wits over who keeps the money. Romantic comedy, starring Cameron Diaz and Ashton Kutcher. (2008)

Pick of the Week

The new champions are finally crowned

Who's it between? Well, not the teams featuring in the World Cup final, but rather BBC v ITV. Both channels will be broadcasting the showpiece match, which takes place at the famous Estadio do Maracana in Rio de Janeiro and kicks off at 8pm, but which company will come out on top in the ratings?

The smart money is on the Beeb. After all, they have silver fox Gary Lineker at the helm, whose still-boyish good looks and the fact he's in his fifties, will appeal to the non-football-loving ladies in the audience, while fans will simply enjoy his knowledge of the game.

The BBC also have some excellent pundits alongside him, and we're hoping that Danny Murphy rather than Mark Lawrenson gets the co-commentator's spot.

The former Liverpool and Fulham star has been a revelation in this position – he's as interesting as poor old Phil Neville was dull during his first go at it during England's opening tie against Italy.

Not that ITV are the poor relations. Adrian Chiles does a decent job as their anchorman, while the likes of Gordon Strachan, Patrick Viera and Lee Dixon have plenty to say for themselves.

Sadly, Fabio Cannavaro often looks like a rabbit caught in the headlights – he's charming, but perhaps needs a few more English lessons.

Also, it would be nice if his co-stars allowed him to get a word in edgeways every now and then.

The World Cup itself has been one of the best in recent memory. From the start, teams generally threw caution to the wind, opting to attack rather than sit back and defend, which led to some thrillingly open games.

Teams such as Chile, Costa Rica and Algeria surprised many by getting further than anyone (including probably themselves) thought possible, while the likes of Italy, holders Spain and, yes, England, fell by the wayside early.

Even the USA, a nation that for so long didn't seem to be able to get its

head around the game they call soccer, finally appeared to embrace it, and the team only bowed out during the round of 16 after one of the most enthralling matches so far, which saw goalkeeper Tim Howard make a record-breaking 15 saves before Belgium beat them 2-1.

After watching so many great matches, we have high hopes for this year's final.

It surely can't be dirtier and more disappointing than the 2010 one anyway, when Spain scored in extra time to win 1-0 against a Netherlands team that was uncharacteristically dirty throughout the game.

Referee Howard Webb sent off one player and handed out 14 bookings that afternoon in Johannesburg.

Who will actually lift the famous trophy is a mystery – there have been too many upsets and surprises so far to tempt us into guessing. What we do know is that it won't be anybody from the British Isles. Maybe our time will come in Russia in 2018, eh?



Gary Lineker, Match of the Day Live, Sunday, BBC1, 7pm

Best of the Rest

Monday

Long Lost Family

ITV, 9pm

Davina McCall and Nicky Campbell are back with a new run of a series which has proved amazingly popular. Although each episode features different people, their stories are often similar and the outcome – a tearful reunion – is the upshot of the research team's hard work. So, make sure you have plenty of tissues handy as we meet 63-year-old Ann Munro from Hampshire, who desperately wants a chance to tell her son why she gave him away when she was 21, and to ask for his forgiveness. There's also a chance to find out how Louise Kendall, a 28-year-old nurse from Bradford, gets on when she tracks down the French father she's never met.

Utopia

Channel 4, 10pm

The first series, broadcast in 2012, was a massive success, so we're expecting big things from this follow-up. It takes us back to 1979 and introduces us to Philip Carvel, a scientific genius who meets Milner, boss of powerful shadowy organisation The Network, at a secret forum involving boffins from various walks of life. They get on like a house on fire, and she encourages him to create Janus, a way of sterilising 95 per cent of the world's people which, she claims, will solve the world's overpopulation problem. But as time goes by, Carvel questions the project, particularly how it will affect his own children, in particular his beloved daughter Jessica. Tom Burke, Rose Leslie, Ed Birch, Anca Androne and Kevin Trainor star.

Tuesday

Hive Alive

BBC2, 8pm

Part one of two. Naturalist and Springwatch presenter Chris Packham and journalist and beekeeping enthusiast Martha Kearney are joined by expert Professor Adam Hart to explore the remarkable secrets of the lives and habits of bees. Midsummer is a critical time for the insects as they must gather enough food for the winter, so a specially designed hive equipped with an array of cutting-edge technology is used in order to monitor them and find out how they do it.

Coast

BBC2, 9pm

Following their recent Australian version, now the Coast team are back for a fresh run. They will be exploring more dramatic areas, telling stories, investigating notable landmarks and exploring mysteries that have played an important role in the coastal regions' development. In this first episode, the Coast crew explores the English Channel. Nick Crane experiences the secret life of Mont St Michel, a rocky outcrop which attracts over a million tourists a year. Mark Horton reveals how French mapmakers accidentally gave birth to Britain's Ordnance Survey some two centuries ago. And a few weeks after the world remembered the fallen, the team discover a poignant memorial to those who lost their lives during the D-Day campaign.

Wednesday

The Hotel Inspector Returns

Channel 5, 9pm

Alex Polizzi returns to the White Hart in St Albans, Hertfordshire, a reputedly haunted 15th-century hotel run by husband-and-wife Ross and Jayne McBeath, who had taken the ghoulisch inspiration to extremes with novelty plastic skeletons and a horror-themed menu. Alex suggested that the proprietors drop the ghost tours and concentrate on the rich history of the building and surrounding area. Two years on, will she find a successful business – or will it be dead and buried?

The Mimic

Channel 4, 10pm

Return of the comedy about a talented impressionist who's stuck in a rut. Since leaving his maintenance job for a big break on TV, things haven't quite gone to plan for Martin and he's having trouble finding work. As his son Steven decides to go travelling – unable to cope after the death of his mother – Martin hires Neil as his new agent. However, his first gig is not exactly what he had been hoping for – busking at a shopping centre. Terry Mynott stars.

Thursday

Talk to the Animals

BBC1, 8pm

Lucy Cooke concludes her global exploration into the world of animal 'speak', focusing on how they talk to friends and enemies and even what they say to their neighbours. The zoologist discovers the many uses of the spotted hyena's call, tricks some vervet monkeys into warning each other of danger and finds out that dolphins not only greet one another, they also have unique signatures.

Friday

The Village That's Falling Into the Sea

BBC1, 7.30pm

On December 5th last year, the Norfolk seaside resort of Hemsby was devastated by the worst storm surge the east coast had seen in 60 years. It resulted in three homes being swept into the sea and another four getting unthinkably damaged. However, this wasn't the first time the village had experienced such loss – their coastline is slowly being eroded at a cost of almost 70 properties over the past few decades. In this one-off programme, presenter David Whiteley meets the residents.

BBC Proms 2014

BBC2, 8pm

The 120th season of the classical music festival gets under way at London's Royal Albert Hall as Katie Derham introduces a performance of Elgar's biblical oratorio The Kingdom, a portrayal of the acts of the disciples after the ascension of Jesus. Andrew Davis conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and the BBC National Chorus of Wales.

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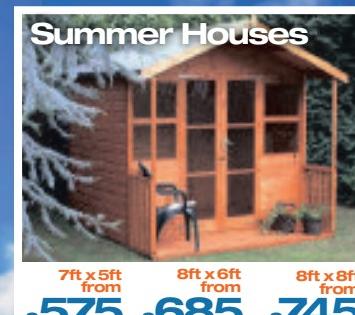
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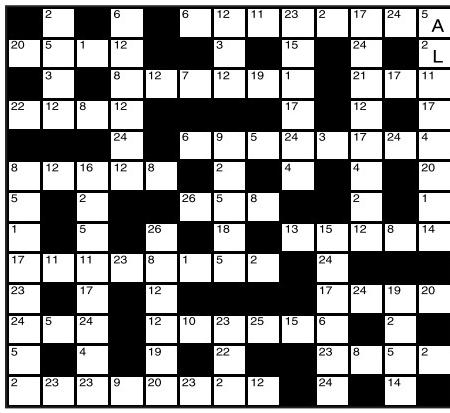
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	C	E	I	T	V	G	D	W	P	M	K	R	O
14	X	Z	H	L	J	A	N	B	U	Q	F	Y	S

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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

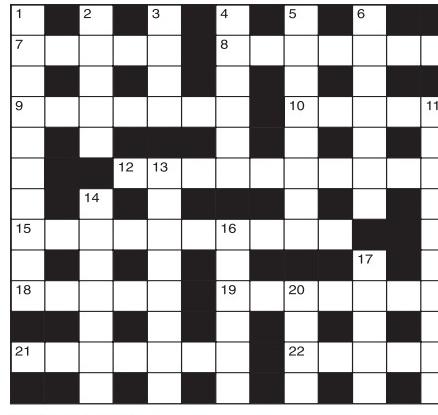
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Sailor not quite finished on top (5)
- 2. She's not herself when working (7)
- 9. It's lace made for use in many under-garments (7)
- 10. Audibly permitted (5)
- 12. It may be a tiny girl's reason for not singing (10)
- 15. Toast? Well, we enjoy it! (4,6)
- 18. Part of Munich expressly designed for a statue (5)
- 19. A topic that's new about a pudding (7)
- 21. We prefer to be so (7)
- 22. Ocean-designed craft? Hardly (5)

Down

- 1. One keeps dry on it (5-5)
- 2. Not qualified to sum up (5)
- 3. A number set about a religious group (4)
- 4. Is such a tune easily picked up? (6)
- 5. Yet a crooked dealer may deal himself one! (8)
- 6. Answers which may be dispensed with (7)
- 11. Specified an intention on the wrong date (10)
- 13. Fit as a lither cat might be (8)
- 14. Firm interest (7)
- 16. He savagely attacked Roman civilisation (6)
- 17. Bandaged an injury? (5)
- 18. Quietly act on an agreement (4)
- 20. Not precise (10)
- 22. Raging (7)
- 23. Prophet (4)
- 24. Feeble (6)
- 25. Eastern (8)
- 26. Ennui (7)
- 27. Confused (10)
- 28. Mid-day (8)
- 29. Best (7)
- 30. Harmony (6)
- 31. Inflexible (5)
- 32. Suffering (5)
- 33. Remark (4)



Quick Clues:

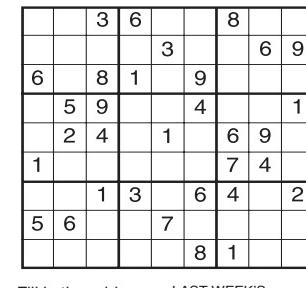
Across

Down

Across

- 1. Not precise (10)
- 2. Astern (5)
- 3. Prophet (4)
- 4. Feeble (6)
- 5. Eastern (8)
- 6. Ennui (7)
- 11. Confused (10)
- 13. Mid-day (8)
- 14. Best (7)
- 16. Harmony (6)
- 17. Inflexible (5)
- 20. Remark (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

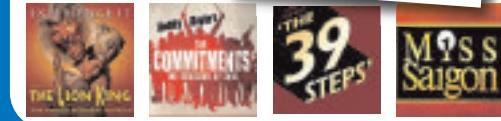
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Escalator; 8 Ian; 9 Till the soil; 11 Crushed; 12 Icing; 13 Ender; 15 Agenda; 17 Rhyme; 18 Ascribe; 20 Ice-breakers; 22 Sol; 23 Suspected; Down: 2 Skit; 3 Latch; 4 Trade; 5 Dredging; 6 Marion; 7 Regretate; 10 Landfill; 11 Cheerless; 14 Ageless; 16 Paces; 19 Chisel; 21 Rye. QUICK - Across: 1 Practical; 8 Own; 9 Depression; 11 Breath; 12 Upper; 13 Animal; 15 Rescue; 17 Idiot; 18 Affront; 20 Assiduously; 22 Dot; 23 Strategem; Down: 2 Roe; 3 Treat; 4 Craven; 5 Leisure; 6 Conspicuous; 7 Interment; 10 Precipitate; 11 Beatitude; 14 Attest; 16 Wander; 19 Float; 21 Lie.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Escalator; 8 Ian; 9 Till the soil; 11 Crushed; 12 Icing; 13 Ender; 15 Agenda; 17 Rhyme; 18 Ascribe; 20 Ice-breakers; 22 Sol; 23 Suspected; Down: 2 Skit; 3 Latch; 4 Trade; 5 Dredging; 6 Marion; 7 Regretate; 10 Landfill; 11 Cheerless; 14 Ageless; 16 Paces; 19 Chisel; 21 Rye. QUICK - Across: 1 Practical; 8 Own; 9 Depression; 11 Breath; 12 Upper; 13 Animal; 15 Rescue; 17 Idiot; 18 Affront; 20 Assiduously; 22 Dot; 23 Strategem; Down: 2 Roe; 3 Treat; 4 Craven; 5 Leisure; 6 Conspicuous; 7 Interment; 10 Precipitate; 11 Beatitude; 14 Attest; 16 Wander; 19 Float; 21 Lie.



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VIEWING ADVISED

FOR SALE

BILSTON LANE, WILLENHALL
Impressive Four Bed Detached Bungalow. With Entrance Porch, Hall, 24ft Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom, Separate W.C. Games Room, Brick Built Workshop, Garden & Parking To Rear.
£319,995

VIEWING ADVISED

FOR SALE

BUSH STREET, DARLASTON
Three Bed Cottage Style Detached Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Bathrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Reception Rooms & En-Suite W.C. To Master Bed. Outside Is Gated Parking, Double Glazing With Adjoining Office & Garden.
£200,000

FOR SALE

BILSTON RD, WILLENHALL
Traditional Three Bed Detached. Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Two Reception Rooms, Breakfast Kitchen, External Boiler Room And W.C., Three Bedrooms, Box Room And Family Bathroom.
£199,995

FOR SALE

LICHFIELD RD, NEW INVENTION
Two Bed Detached Bungalow Having Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway.
£189,995

FOR SALE

THE GREEN, DARLASTON
Four Bed Detached House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C., Rear Hallway, En-Suite Shower To Master Bed & Family Bathroom. Rear Garden & Off Road Parking.
£169,995

FOR SALE

HIGHMOOR CL, COPPIE FARM
Three Bed Semi Detached Having Lounge, Separate Dining Room With UPVC Double Glazed French Doors. Fitted Kitchen, Master Bedroom With Fitted Wardrobes, Two Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Block Paved Driveway.
£169,995

NEW INSTRUCTION

FOR SALE

SHEPWEll GREEN, W'HALL
Modern Three Bed Semi-Detached Bungalow. Ground Floor Comprises Of Lounge/Diner, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Bedroom And Family Bathroom. First Floor There Are A Further Two Bedrooms And Second Floor Bathroom. Outside Is A Detached Garage. Front Garden And Enclosed Garden To The Rear.
£164,995

REDUCED

FOR SALE

BIRCHTREE HOLLOW, W'HALL
Extended Five Bed Semi-Detached Having Entrance Porch & Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room, Ground Floor W.C., Additional Sitting Room And Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Driveway.
£160,000

FOR SALE

FRANCHISE ST, WEDNESBURY
Three Bedroom End Terrace Property. Entrance Hall, Three Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Ground Floor W.C., Additional Sitting Room And Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Driveway.
£159,995

VIEWING ADVISED

FOR SALE

CAStLE DRIVE, WILLENHALL
Four Bedroom Semi Comprising Of Entrance Porch & Hall, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Ground Floor W.C., Additional Sitting Room/Bedroom Four, Three First Floor Bedrooms And A Modern Family Bathroom.
£159,995

FOR SALE

PRINCETHORPE RD, WILLENHALL
Superbly Presented Four Bedroom Town House Comprising Of Lounge, Ground Floor W.C., Sitting Room, Modern Kitchen/Diner, Four Bedrooms, En-Suite Shower Room To Master Bed And Family Bathroom. MOST VIEW.
£159,995

NEW INSTRUCTION

FOR SALE

WILLENHALL RD, BILSTON
Extended Three Bed Semi-Detached House Comprising Of Entrance Porch And Hall, Two Reception Rooms, Extended Kitchen, Utility Room, Ground Floor W.C., First Floor Family Bathroom. Generous Garden To The Front And Side. Off Road Parking & Garage, Enclosed Garden To The Rear.
£149,995

FOR SALE

RAVENSCROFT RD, WILLENHALL
Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Adapted To Allow For Disabled Living. Comprising Of Lounge, Kitchen/Diner And Family Bathroom. Generous Garden To The Front And Side. Off Road Parking & Garage.
£140,000

FOR SALE

HILLBURY DR, COPPIE FARM
Two Bed Semi-Detached House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner And Family Bathroom. The Property Sits On A Generous Corner Plot Having Front, Side And Rear Gardens.
£139,995

FOR SALE

WHITEWOOD GLADE, W'HALL
Three Bed Semi-Detached House Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen And Family Bathroom. Gardens To Front And Rear, Driveway Parking And Detached Garage.
£137,500

REDUCED

FOR SALE

BASALT CLOSE, REEDSWOOD
Modern Three Bedroom End Town House Comprising Of Fitted Kitchen, Lounge/Diner, En-Suite, Fitted Bedroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage & Off Road Parking. Viewing Recommended.
£137,500

FOR SALE

SANDRINGHAM AVE, W'HALL
Three Bed Semi-Detached Property Having Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Spacious Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Relitfit Family Bathroom, Hardwood D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Driveway.
£134,995

FOR SALE

WOODSIDE WAY, SHORT HEATH
Extended Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom And Detached Garage, Part D/Glazing & C/Heating.
£130,000

FOR SALE

RIDING WAY, SHORT HEATH
Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms Both With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom And Shower Room. Outside There Are Front And Rear Gardens, Ample Off Road Parking And Garage, Cul-de-sac Location.
£129,995

REDUCED

FOR SALE

STUBBINGTON CL, PORTOBELLO
Two Bed Detached Bungalow. Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Lounge, Sunroom, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms Both With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Detached Garage And Driveway. Good Transport Links To Wolverhampton, Willenhall, Bilston & Walsall.
£125,000

FOR SALE

CAStLE DRIVE, WILLENHALL
Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow Located On The Popular Hayes Estate. Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Diner, 20ft Lounge, Study, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom And Separate WC. Driveway Parking And Rear Garden.
£124,995

FOR SALE

BENTON CL, WILLENHALL
Extended Three Bedroom Town House. Comprising Of Popular Hayes Estate, 27ft Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, 20ft Lounge, Study, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom And Separate WC. Driveway Parking And Rear Garden.
£119,995

FOR SALE

THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL
Modern Two Bed Semi Having Lounge, Diner, Kitchen, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Block Paved Driveway To The Fore Following Off Road Parking For Two Vehicles And A Private Enclosed Rear Garden.
£110,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

FOR SALE

STRoud AVE, WILLENHALL
Two Bedroom Mid Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Ground Floor W.C., Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, And Family Bathroom. Outside Are Front & Rear Gardens As Well As Off Road Parking To The Rear.
£109,950

REDUCED

FOR SALE

WALKERS FOLD, SHORT HEATH
Three Bed Mid Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Diner And Modern Shower Room. Outside Are Two Allocated Parking Spaces & Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN!
£107,500

FOR SALE

LEACROFT, NEW INVENTION
Three Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Diner And Modern Shower Room. Outside Are Two Allocated Parking Spaces & Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN!
£105,000

REDUCED

FOR SALE

LIME AVE, BENTLEY
Three Bedroom Mid Terrace House Having Lounge, Dining Room Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility Area, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Shower Room, Separate W.C., D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking And Rear Garden.
£100,000

FOR SALE

COLTHAM RD, SHORT HEATH
Well Presented Three Bedroom Mid Terraced House. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bathroom And Three Bedrooms. Off Road Parking To The Front And Garden To The Rear.
£100,000

FOR SALE

WYCHBOLD CL, NEW INVENTION
Well Presented Three Bed End Town House Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Ground Floor W.C., Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, Majority C/Heating & Rear Garden.
£99,950

FOR SALE

POPLAR AVE, BENTLEY
Three Bedroom End Town House. Comprises Of Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, W.C., Three Bedrooms And Shower Room. Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. Front & Rear Gardens.
£95,000

VIEWING ADVISED

FOR SALE

BLENHEIM RD, SUMMER HAYES
Immaculately Presented Two Bed Ground Floor Flat Comprising Of Entrance Porch/Utility Area, Lounge, Kitchen, Hall, Two Bedrooms And Modern Bathroom. Outside There Is An Enclosed Rear Garden & Further Lawn Area To The Side.
£95,000

FOR SALE

REDWOOD WAY, COPPIE FARM
Immaculately Presented One Bed Ground Floor Flat Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Modern Fitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden And Driveway.
£89,995

FOR SALE

SQUIRES GROVE, NEW INVENTION
Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment. Superbly Presented Accommodation Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Modern Fitted Bathroom, Two Good Sized Bedrooms With En-Suite To Master And Family Bathroom.
£89,950

FOR SALE

CANNOCK RD, NEW INVENTION
One Bed Mid Town House. Comprises Of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom And Bathroom. Outside There Is A Gravelled Garden, Allocated Parking Space And Garage In A Separate Block.
£85,000

FOR SALE

VICTORIA STREET, WILLENHALL
Spacious Three Bedroom Victorian Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, First Floor Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, Gas C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden TO LET!
£83,500

FOR SALE

VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL
Well Presented Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating. Outside There Is A Garage In Separate Block.
£69,995

FOR SALE

TREETOPS DR, WILLENHALL
One Bed First Floor Flat. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom And Bathroom. Also Having Full UPVC Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. Outside There Is A Garage In Separate Block.
£67,500

FOR SALE

HAWKSWELL DR, W'HALL
One Bedroom End Townhouse Located On Hadley Heath Estate Having Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, Electric Heating, Secure Fenced Compound. Ideal First Time Buy! MUST VIEW.
£64,995

FOR SALE

LINDEN CLOSE, BENTLEY
Two Bed Maisonette Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Lounge, Spacious Double Glazed French Doors, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, Electric Heating, Secure Fenced Compound. Ideal First Time Buy! BTL Investment.
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**Cranbrook Road
Handsworth**

Viewing: 10th & 19th July at 11.00



**Catshill Road
Brownhills**

Viewing: The Site Is Open For Viewing



**Poplar Avenue
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 10.30



**George Frederick Road
Sutton Coldfield**

Viewing: 11th & 19th July at 12.00



**Wolverhampton Road
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th at 12.45

A delightful four bedroom semi detached family home in need of modernisation situated in a popular residential location within easy reach of all local amenities/shops, good schools and public transport links. Offering further scope to improve/enhance this is an excellent opportunity for potential family buyer and investors alike. The property comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore & Rear Gardens. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £170,000 PLUS

A Freehold residential building plot, of approximately 0.07 ha, with Outline Planning Permission Subject to Conditions, for the erection of two dwellings. Application No: 14/0323/OL. The plot is conveniently located within a short distance of Brownhills centre with all facilities provided

GUIDE PRICE £50,000 - £60,000

Occupying a prominent corner position on a good size plot lending itself to further development subject to planning this traditional detached residence has gas central heating and double glazing. Located in a popular residential area with open aspect to front the property comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area with W.C. off. Enclosed Rear Porch, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage. The property is set back from the road behind a driveway and foregarden, whilst there is a large side garden and rear garden. EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £150,000 - £170,000

A much extended traditional semi-detached property conveniently located just off Banners Gate Road with all amenities close including Sutton Park. The well planned spacious accommodation which needs attention to the roof has double glazing and gas central heating and comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Well Equipped Fitted Kitchen, Side Utility, W.C., Side Storage, Four Bedrooms, Re-fitted Bathroom, Additional Shower Room, Garage, Fore Garden with off street parking, Rear Garden. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £155,000 - £175,000

A gas centrally heated upvc double glazed end terraced property ideal for first time buyer or investor which has a new kitchen and bathroom installed. The property comprises: Reception Hall, Front Reception Room, Rear Reception Room, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £55,000 - £65,000



**Selbourne Street
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 12.00

Occupying a prominent corner position in the heart of Chockery these four commercial and one residential unit would make an ideal investment whilst also offering a development opportunity. Viewing is recommended to appreciate the many options the property offers: Double Fronted Cafe with Kitchen Prep Room, Prep Room near yard, W.C.s, Cellar and Store. Self Contained 2 Storey Unit with Communal Hallway, Workshop, First Floor Room, Office, W.C., Kitchen. Self Contained Unit with Store & Workshop. Self Contained Two Storey Unit with L-Shaped Workshop, Garage and First Floor Offices. Self Contained Flat Let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy with Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom & Lobby. Awaiting EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £1650,000



**Greenside Way
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 11.00



**Kennet Close
Brownhills**

Viewing: The Site Is Open For Viewing



**Dora Court, Lodge Road
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 11.30



**Somerfield Road
Bloxwich**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 1.45

A Freehold residential building plot, of approximately 0.04 ha with Outline Planning Permission Subject to Conditions, for the erection of two dwellings. Application No: 14/0331/OL. The plot is conveniently located within a short distance of Leamore and Bloxwich centres with all facilities provided.

GUIDE PRICE £30,000 - £40,000



**Green Rock Lane
Bloxwich**

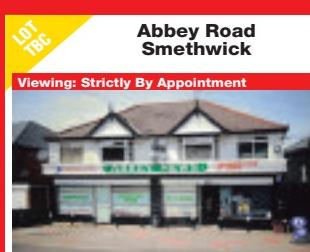
Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



**Selwyn Road
Bilston**



Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



**Bilton Road
Sedgley**

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment

Situated in the heart of Sedgley Village, this well proportioned Georgian double fronted detached residence will make an ideal purchase for a family. The accommodation has gas central heating and is predominantly double glazed in a good sized plot to the rear. The well appointed accommodation comprises: Open plan Sitting Room, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Garage/Workshop, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Off Street Parking, Fore Garden, driveway to side with ample off street parking, attractive enclosed rear garden with carport. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £150,000 PLUS



**Botany Road
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 10.00



**Carl Street
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 1.15



**Weston Street
Walsall**

Viewing: 12th & 18th July at 2.15

Currently trading as Off Licence and General Store with living accommodation above, this double fronted former pair of semi detached properties could continue trading or offer conversion to residential subject to planning. Set on a corner plot the property comprises: Ground Floor Shop, Kitchen, Reception, Utility Room with WC off and Self Contained Flat/Floor Flat - Benefiting from double glazing and gas central heating comprising: Landing, Kitchen, Through Lounge/Dining Room, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front/Rear, enclosed yard/garden, Garage with roller shutter doors. EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £220,000 PLUS

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000

GUIDE PRICE £40,000 - £50,000

GUIDE PRICE £65,000 PLUS



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Price reduction for home in choice area



HAVING had a big price reduction, this four bedroomed link-detached house in Church Road, Pelsall, Walsall lies close to village amenities.

It is for sale through Marrion & Co at £375,000.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has an entrance hall, a cloakroom, an oak panelled dining room, a spacious lounge, a study room, extended conservatory style oak kitchen with a breakfast area and cosy snug, a utility, master bedroom with an en-suite shower room.

There are three further first floor bedrooms, a bathroom/wc, double width garage, block paved driveway, a secluded and well established rear garden which is mainly lawned and has a paved patio and a summer house. For further information contact Marrion & Co on 01922 404446 or visit www.marrion.co.uk

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EPC: D

WILLENHALL
GIPSY LANE

- Restored large Edwardian semi detached villa
- Two double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen & utility
- Bathroom & guest wc
- Off road parking

£450 PCM



EPC: D

WALSALL
WREXHAM AVENUE

- Traditional style semi detached property
- Refitted kitchen & bathroom
- Gas c/heating & double glazing
- Three bedrooms
- Enclosed rear garden

£475.00 PCM



EPC: E

BILSTON
ST CHADS ROAD

- Traditional style detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Dining kitchen • Shower room
- C/heating & d/glazing
- Enclosed rear garden
- Off road parking for one car

£500 PCM

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EPC: D

WEST BROMWICH
GREEN ROAD

- Attractive modernised mid terraced
- Two bedrooms
- G/central heating
- D/glazing

£475.00 PCM



NEW

EPC: D

WEDNESFIELD
PARRY ROAD

- Three bedroom semi detached
- Modern kitchen
- Two reception rooms
- Utility room
- Family bathroom & separate toilet
- Off road parking
- Enclosed rear

£575.00 PCM



NEW

EPC: Tbc

WEDNESFIELD
DEYNCOURT ROAD

- Traditional style semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge & dining room
- C/heating & d/glazing
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom
- Garage & off road parking

£560.00 PCM



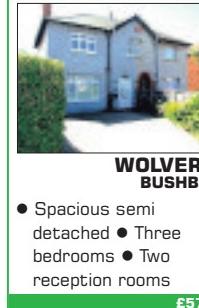
LET

EPC: F

WEDNESFIELD
VICTORIA ROAD

- Refurbished detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen
- d/glazing & c/heating
- Conservatory
- Refitted bathroom
- Garage & off road parking

£600 PCM



EPC: D

WOLVERHAMPTON
BUSHBURY ROAD

- Spacious semi detached
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen & utility
- C/heating & part d/glazing
- Rear garden & driveway

£575 PCM



LET

EPC: D

WEDNESFIELD
WIMBORNE ROAD

- Beautiful semi detached
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted dining kitchen
- Refitted bathroom
- UPVC d/glazing
- Gas c/heating
- Large rear garden
- Off road parking

£625 PCM

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PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



**WALSALL
LAVENDER GROVE**

- A SUPERB FOUR BEDROOM PROPERTY
- COMPLETELY REFURBISHED WITH NEW FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- NEW CARPETS AND FLOORING THROUGHOUT
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- CALL NOW TO BOOK A VIEWING!!

£110,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

EPC: C

MANAGERS CHOICE



**WALSALL
CHANTRY AVENUE**

- EXTENDED MID TOWN HOUSE STYLE PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS, FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM
- LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, RE-FITTED KITCHEN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM, DOWNSTAIRS WC
- DRIVEWAY, GOOD SIZE REAR GARDEN, NO CHAIN!

£89,950

NEW

EPC: -

FEATURED PROPERTY



**BEECHDALE, WALSALL
REMINGTON ROAD**

- ABSOLUTELY IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS OR A YOUNG FAMILY
- RE-FITTED THREE BEDROOM PROPERTY WITH BRAND NEW KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- NEW CARPETS THROUGHOUT
- NO CHAIN, VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!!

£94,950 OFFERS

EPC: F

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**BROWNHILLS
WARREN PLACE**

- TRADITIONAL STYLE TOWN HOUSE HAVING THREE BEDROOMS AND TWO RECEPTION ROOMS.
- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM WITH SHOWER, FRONT AND REAR GARDENS
- INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED, NO UPWARD CHAIN!

£87,500 OFFERS



**BLOXWICH
FIELD ROAD**

- TWO BEDROOM TERRACED STYLE PROPERTY IN NEED OF MODERNISATION
- CONVENIENT FOR BLOXWICH TOWN CENTRE
- NO UPWARD CHAIN, CALL AGENT FOR VIEWING
- INVESTMENT POTENTIAL!

£64,950 OFFERS

NEW



**BLAKENHALL HEATH, WALSALL
BELL TOWER CLOSE**

- PLEASANT END TOWN HOUSE STYLE PROPERTY SITUATED ON MODERN DEVELOPMENT CLOSE TO LOCAL AMENITIES
- THREE BEDROOMS
- 15FT REAR LOUNGE WITH FRENCH DOORS
- MASTER WITH EN-SUITE SHOWER ROOM

£140,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF



**BLOXWICH
PARKER STREET**

- CONVENIENTLY LOCATED TERRACED PROPERTY SITUATED CLOSE TO BLOXWICH RAILWAY STATION
- TWO BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM
- REAR PARKING WITHIN GARDEN

£80,000 OFFERS

NEW



**BLOXWICH
STONEY LANE**

- LOVELY EXTENDED CHARACTER TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY IN POPULAR LOCATION
- THREE BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- ESTABLISHED REAR GARDEN

£155,000 FIXED PRICE

REDUCED



**WALSALL
DICKINSON DRIVE**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI IN POPULAR DEVELOPMENT NEAR TO JUNCTION 9 M6 MOTORWAY
- TWO BEDROOMS AND UPSTAIRS BATHROOM,
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING!

£110,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

REMOVED



**SOLD
Subject to contract**

**WALSALL
COALPOOL LANE**

- PLEASANT THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY SITUATED IN SMALL SERVICE ROAD OFF COALPOOL LANE
- DOWNTAIRS W.C
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, INTERNAL VIEWING RECOMMENDED!

£96,950 OFFERS



**LEAMORE, WALSALL
HARDEN ROAD**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY THOUGHT IDEAL FOR THE YOUNG FAMILY
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!

£115,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

REMOVED



**BLOXWICH
STONEY LANE**

- LOVELY EXTENDED CHARACTER TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY IN POPULAR LOCATION
- THREE BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- ESTABLISHED REAR GARDEN

£155,000 FIXED PRICE

REMOVED



**WALSALL
DICKINSON DRIVE**

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI IN POPULAR DEVELOPMENT NEAR TO JUNCTION 9 M6 MOTORWAY
- TWO BEDROOMS AND UPSTAIRS BATHROOM,
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING!

£110,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

REMOVED

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PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



LITTLE BLOXWICH
GRENFELL ROAD

- EXCELLENT FIVE BEDROOM DETACHED PROPERTY WITH EN-SUITE SHOWER,
- CONVENIENTLY LOCATED NEAR TO LICHFIELD ROAD BLOXWICH
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING & UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, POPULAR LITTLE BLOXWICH AREA
- ESTABLISHED REAR GARDEN
- VIEWING RECOMMENDED!!

£199,950 OFFERS

EPC: D



Thinking of Selling this Summer?

Call us Now to book your **FREE** Market Appraisal!

FEATURED PROPERTY



PELSALL
PLANT WAY

- SITUATED IN POPULAR PELSALL LOCATION, CUL DE SAC POSITION
- END TOWN HOUSE STYLE PROPERTY WITH THREE BEDROOMS, RE-FITTED KITCHEN AND A CONSERVATORY
- FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM WITH SHOWER
- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- REAR GARDENS
- NO UPWARD CHAIN, VIEWING RECOMMENDED!!

£110,000 OFFERS IN EXCESS OF

EPC: C



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LEAMORE, WALSHALL
BLAKENALL LANE

- BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED EXTENDED FAMILY HOME
- THREE BEDROOM MID TOWN HOUSE
- FAMILY BATHROOM & DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- OPEN PLAN THROUGH LOUNGE DINER
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN, GATED DRIVEWAY
- VIEWING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!

£112,500 OFFERS

TURNBERRY ESTATE, BLOXWICH
MOOR PARK

- MODERN DETACHED FAMILY HOME OFFERING EXTENDED ACCOMMODATION SITUATED IN A SECLUDED LOCATION WITH OPEN VIEWS TO THE FRONT ASPECT
- THREE BEDROOMS
- EXTENDED LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM, FITTED KITCHEN
- GARAGE, FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

£210,000 OFFERS

EPC: D

EPC: C

EPC: -

EPC: D



BLOXWICH
CHURSTON CLOSE

- PLEASANTLY POSITIONED EXTENDED MODERN STYLE DETACHED PROPERTY IN POPULAR TURNBERRY ROAD DEVELOPMENT.
- FOUR BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY

£210,000 OFFERS

BLOXWICH
SNEYD LANE

- PLEASANTLY APPOINTED TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI, IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME PURCHASERS
- TWO BEDROOMS & UPSTAIRS BATHROOM,
- 24FT THROUGH LOUNGE/DINING ROOM, BLOCK PAVED DRIVE, INTERNAL VIEWING ESSENTIAL!!

£109,950

SOLD
Subject to contract

SOLD
Subject to contract

SOLD
Subject to contract

SOLD
Subject to contract

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PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



EPC D

**HONEYBOURNE WAY
WILLENHALL**

- Modern Detached Property
- Popular location
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Gas CH
- Double Glazing
- Garage
- Driveway
- Corner Plot Gardens

£157,000

FEATURED PROPERTY



EPC D

**REID AVENUE
SHORT HEATH**

- Superb modern dormer bungalow
- Corner plot location
- Three double bedrooms
- Ground floor bathroom
- Large lounge
- Breakfast kitchen
- Double glazing
- Gas CH
- Garage
- Driveway
- Corner gardens

£153,950

BRAND NEW DEVELOPMENT

**MILL LANE
WILLENHALL**

- Newly built terraced properties
- Hall
- Guest wc
- Lounge
- Superb dining kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Bathroom
- Driveway
- Enclosed rear garden

£124,950

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EPC D

**CANNOCK ROAD
WILLENHALL**

- Extended Traditional Detached
- Five Double Bedrooms
- Reception Hall
- Guests WC
- Through Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility
- Luxury Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas CH
- Double Glazing
- Rear Garden
- Large Driveway

£299,995

EPC C

**SNEYD LANE
ESSINGTON**

- Attractive Extended Semi Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Extended Lounge
- Conservatory
- Double Glazing
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility & WC
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Double Glazing
- Block Paved Driveway
- Delightful Rear Gardens

£239,950

EPC D

**NIGHTINGALE CRESCENT
COPPICE FARM**

- Modern Detached Property
- Prime location
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility
- WC
- Four Bedrooms
- En-suite
- Refitted bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas CH
- Double Glazing
- Rear garden

£228,000

EPC TBC

**ROSEWOOD DRIVE
COPPICE FARM**

- Much improved modern semi detached
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge
- Superb newly fitted dining kitchen
- Double Glazing
- Refitted bathroom
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Double Glazing
- Block paved driveway
- Rear garden

£160,000

EPC D

**HONEYBOURNE WAY
WILLENHALL**

- Modern Semi Detached
- Popular Location
- Through lounge/dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Luxury refitted shower room
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Block paved driveway
- Rear garden

OFFERS OVER £153,000

EPC D

**LONGWOOD RISE
WILLENHALL**

- Descriptively spacious semi detached
- Popular Cul-de-sac location
- Two bedrooms
- Bathrooms
- Through lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- 2nd game room/bathroom 4
- Large driveway
- Private rear gardens
- No chain

£145,000

NO CHAIN

**EDINBURGH DRIVE
SUMMER HAYES**

- Extended semi detached bungalow
- Popular cul-de-sac location
- Two bedrooms
- Bathrooms
- Through lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Double glazing
- Gas CH
- Large driveway
- Private rear gardens
- No chain

£139,995

EPC E

**CADNAM CLOSE
WILLENHALL**

- Modern Detached Property
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathrooms
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing
- Driveway
- Rear Gardens

£139,950

EPC C

**TENBURY CLOSE
BENTLEY**

- Superb Modern Style Semi Detached
- Desirable Cul De Sac
- Spacious Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Gas CH
- Double Glazing
- Delightful Landscaped Rear Gardens
- Planning Permission for Two Storey Side Extension

£137,500

EPC D

**DILLOWAYS LANE
WILLENHALL**

- Extended Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property
- Popular Cul-De-Sac
- Through Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Separate Family / Dining Room with Utility Room
- Three Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Block Paved Driveway
- Rear Gardens
- Garage
- Driveway

£133,995

EPC D

**ADA WRIGHTON CLOSE
NEW INVENTION**

- Modern Style End Terrace
- Popular Cul-De-Sac
- Reception Hall
- Three Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Double Glazing
- Gas CH
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Garage
- Driveway

OFFERS OVER £125,000

NO CHAIN

EPC TBC

**TILDESLEY DRIVE
WILLENHALL**

- Extended End Terrace Property
- No Chain
- Spacious Through Lounge
- Large Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Shower Room with Separate WC
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System
- Very Large Rear Gardens

£115,000

NO CHAIN

EPC D

**CEDAR PARK ROAD
SNEYD PARK**

- Mid Terrace Property
- No Upward Chain
- Hall
- Spacious Lounge
- Large Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Garage
- Rear Gardens

£107,950

NO CHAIN

EPC E

**LABURNUM GROVE
BENTLEY**

- Renovated Mid Terrace Property
- No Chain
- Through Lounge / Dining Room
- Large Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Garage
- Rear Gardens

£106,000

NO CHAIN

EPC D

**THE CRESCENT
WILLENHALL**

- Period Mid Terrace Property
- No Chain
- Hall
- Spacious Lounge
- Large Dining Room
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Rear Gardens

£89,950

EPC D

**MAGNESS CRESCENT
WILLENHALL**

- Pleasantly appointed semi
- Three bedrooms
- Hall
- Spacious Lounge
- Large Dining room
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Bathrooms
- Block paved driveway
- Pleasant rear garden
- No Chain

**AUCTION STARTING PRICE
£80,000**

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NEW INSTRUCTION



**NOOSE LANE
WILLENHALL**



- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Extensive Rear Gardens

£190,000

- Exceptional Much Extended Semi Detached Bungalow
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Large Dining Kitchen
- Utility
- Bathroom
- Double Garage

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

EPC TBC

MANAGER'S CHOICE



**COLLIERS CLOSE
SUMMER HAYES**



- Superb Extended Semi Detached
- Sought After Cul De Sac Location
- Four Bedrooms
- Impressive Lounge and Dining Room
- Newly Fitted Kitchen

£177,495

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Luxury Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Garage
- Pleasant Gardens

EPC TBC

NEW INSTRUCTION



**SANDRINGHAM AVENUE
WILLENHALL**



- Stunning Extended Traditional Semi Detached
- Popular Location
- Hall
- Lounge
- Spacious Sitting / Dining Room
- Superb Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Utility with Guests WC
- Three Bedrooms
- Impressive Luxury Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Driveway
- Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing • Gas CH

£165,000

EPC TBC

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NEW



NEW



NEW



NEW



NEW



NEW



NEW



NO CHAIN



EPC E

**KEWSTOE ROAD
SNEYD PARK**

- Much Improved Modern Semi Detached
- Highly Sought After Location
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge • Dining Room
- Kitchen • Utility
- Conservatory • Fitted Kitchen
- Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Rear Garden • No Chain
- No Chain

£155,000

**YORK AVENUE
COUNTY BRIDGE**

- Modern Large Fronted Semi Detached
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen • Utility
- Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Front & Rear Gardens

£118,000

**KIPLING ROAD
SHORT HEATH**

- Mid Terrace Property
- No Chain
- Large Lounge
- Kitchen • Utility
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Front & Rear Gardens

£85,000

**BEMBRIDGE CLOSE
COPPIE FARM**

- Superb Extended Modern Semi Detached
- Popular Location
- Superb Lounge with Dining Area • Conservatory
- Impressive Breakfast Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Shower Room
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Garage • Driveway • Pleasant Gardens

£140,000

**JANE LANE CLOSE
BENTLEY**

- Much Improved Mid Terrace Property
- Cul de Sac Location
- Hall • Lounge
- Kitchen • Utility
- Two Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Rear Gardens • No Chain
- Part Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing
- Driveway for 2 cars

£80,000

**LAKESIDE CLOSE
WILLENHALL**

- Back To Back End Town House
- Cul de Sac Location
- Lounge
- Kitchen • Utility
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Rear Gardens
- Ideal Investment Property

£79,995

**WELLINGTON PLACE
WILLENHALL**

- Immaculately Presented Period Property
- Lounge • Dining Room
- Kitchen • Utility
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Rear Gardens

£97,000



REDUCED



EPC E



NEW

EPC C



REDUCED

EPC E



REDUCED

EPC C



REDUCED



REDUCED



REDUCED



REDUCED

**JAMES STREET
THE MANOR, WILLENHALL**

- Spacious 1930's Semi Detached
- Prominent Corner Position
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge • Dining Room
- Kitchen • Utility
- Large Gardens
- Garage & Driveway
- No Chain

OFFERS OVER £140,000

**NEWLANDS CLOSE
WILLENHALL**

- Extended Modern Link Detached
- No Upward Chain
- Hall • Lounge
- Family • Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Garage & Driveway
- Front & Rear Gardens

REDUCED TO £132,000

**DURHAM AVENUE
WILLENHALL**

- Traditional Semi Detached
- Popular Location • No Chain
- Hall
- Lounge • Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Garage & Driveway
- Pleasant Rear Gardens

REDUCED TO £117,500

**SQUIRES GROVE
NEW INVENTION**

- Well presented second floor flat
- Two bedrooms
- Large lounge with dining area • Fitted kitchen
- En-suite
- Refurbished bathroom
- Double glazing
- Allocated parking space
- Possibility to be a Higher %
- No chain

£37,000 FOR 40% OWNERSHIP

**WINDSOR WALK
DARLSTON**

- Extended well presented modern style end terrace
- Lounge • Dining Room
- Kitchen • Utility
- Fitted Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Double glazing • Rear garden
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces

£98,000

**BILSTON LANE
WILLENHALL**

- Period Mid Terrace Property
- Lounge • Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Ground Floor Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing
- Garage & Gardens to Rear
- No Chain

£75,000

**KINGFISHER COURT
CLARKES LANE, WILLENHALL**

- Superb First Floor Apartment
- Hall
- Lounge with Kitchen area
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Bathrooms
- Secure Allocated Parking
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System
- No Chain

£72,000

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Bloxwich REDBOURNE ROAD
• Four Bedroom Detached House
• Conservatory•Fitted Kitchen
• Separate Utility•Downstairs WC
• Family Bathroom & Master Ensuite

£950 PCM



Bloxwich WOODALL STREET
• Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
• Kitchen•Lounge/Diner
• Bathroom•En-Suite
• Gardens•Garage

£675 PCM



Walsall HARDEN CLOSE
• Two Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
• Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom
• Rear Garden•D.Glazing
• Gas Central Heating

£325 PCM



Willenhall BALMORAL DRIVE
• THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
• D.Glazing & Gas Central Heating
• Two Reception Rooms•Kitchen
• Family Bathroom•Enclosed Rear Garden

£575 PCM



Bloxwich WOODALL STREET
• Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
• Kitchen • Lounge/Diner
• Guest W.C • Family Bathroom
• Front & Rear Gardens

£550 PCM



Walsall MANORHOUSE CLOSE
• Two Bed Apartment
• Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Bathroom
• Double Glazing•Heating
• Allocated Parking•Ensuite

£500 PCM



Leamore EAGLEWORKS DRIVE
• Two Bedroom Apartment
• Fully Furnished•Lounge•Kitchen
• En-Suite Shower Room
• Bathroom•D.Glazing & Gas Heating

£525 PCM



Bloxwich MILLFIELD AVENUE
• Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
• Lounge • Fitted Kitchen/Diner
• Family Bathroom • Gas Central Heating
• Double Glazing • Front & Rear Gardens

£495 PCM



Bloxwich WEST STREET
• Two Bedroom Terraced Property
• D.Glazing and Gas Central Heating
• Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Utility Room
• Downstairs Bathroom

£495 PCM



Walsall WEST BROMWICH ROAD
• Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
• Open Plan Lounge/Diner
• Kitchen•Ground Floor Bathroom
• Gardens•Gas Central Heating

£475 PCM



Bloxwich BAGNALL STREET
• Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
• Lounge•Kitchen
• Bathroom•Gardens
• Driveway•No Pets•DHSS Accepted

£475 PCM



Walsall BORNEO STREET
• Three Bedroom Terrace
• 2 Reception Rooms•Dining Room
• Kitchen•Family Bathroom
• Double Glazing•Rear Garden

£475 PCM



Walker Road GUILD COURT
• Two Bedroom Apartments
• Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
• Bathroom • Gas Central Heating
• Double Glazing • Allocated Parking

£450 PCM



Blakenhall Heath CHURCH WALK, PARISH COURT
• Two Bed Apartment
• Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
• Bathroom • Gas Central Heating
• Off Road Parking

£450 PCM



Walsall GURNEY ROAD
• Two Bedroom End Terrace
• Lounge•Kitchen
• Bathroom
• Downstairs W.C•Garden
• Garage

£450 PCM



Walsall DEERMEAD COURT
• Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment
• Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
• Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower
• Family Bathroom

£450



Willenhall ARGYLL COURT
• One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
• Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom
• D.Glazing & Gas Central Heating
• Sorry No DHSS, Pets or

£425 PCM



Walsall KENT STREET
• Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
• Two Reception Rooms
• Kitchen•Bathroom
• Rear Garden•DHSS Accepted

£425 PCM



Walsall WATERFRONT WAY
• ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR
• Allocated parking•Entrance Hallway
• Family Bathroom•Open Plan Lounge
• Fitted Kitchen•Sorry No DHSS, Pets or

£425 PCM



Walsall CAIRNS STREET
• Two Bedroom Terrace
• D.Glazing•Gas Central Heating
• Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
• Garden•DHSS Accepted

£400 PCM



Bloxwich HIGH STREET
• Two Bedroom Flat
• Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
• Bathroom•DHSS Accepted
• No Pets or Smokers

£400 PCM



Walsall LINGFIELD COURT
• One Bedroom Apartment
• Part Furnished
• Fitted Kitchen
• Lounge with French Doors
• Electric Heating & Double

£425 PCM



Bloxwich LIVINGSTONE ROAD
• Two Bed Flat
• Lounge•Kitchen
• Bathroom•Central Heating
• D.Glazing•Off Road Parking

£395 PCM



Walsall BLOXWICH ROAD
• One & Two Bedroom Flats
• Lounge•Kitchen•Parking
• Gas Central Heating
• DHSS Accepted

From £380 PCM



Walsall TAME CLOSE
• One Bedroom First Floor Flat
• Lounge with Balcony
• Kitchen • Shower Room
• Communal Grounds
• Communal Parking

£375 PCM



Bloxwich HARRISON STREET
• One Bed Flat
• Lounge/Fitted Kitchen
• Bathroom•Central Heating
• D.Glazing•Electric heating

£350 PCM

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New Ibiza FR proves a hit with cylinder switch action

By David Banner

The SEAT Ibiza FR variants are now fitted with the 1.4 TSI ACT engine – and a very good one it is too.

With the ability to cut to two cylinders when cruising, the efficiency of this car has been transformed.

It's still pretty quick, but this supermini is now a whole lot more cost-effective to own.

Right. We've got to start by wading through that sea of acronyms if you're going to understand what this car is about (the deep breath) 'Ibiza 1.4 TSI ACT FR 140PS'. The FR badge on the back of a SEAT Ibiza signifies that it's a slightly sporty version.

Not as hot as a Cupra, true, but still capable of delivering some payback if you point it at a twisty road. The 1.4 TSI part is the engine, in this case a turbocharged 1.4-litre four-cylinder unit, with stratified injection which develops an output of 140PS.

The ACT bit though, is probably most important: it's what makes that powerplant a little bit special. 'ACT' stands for 'Active Cylinder Technology'. This alternates between two and four cylinder modes, depending on the power required, in less than 40 milliseconds, making the transition between the two seamless. We'll have a look at what that means in real terms later.

You're probably used to this shape Ibiza by now. It's the facelifted version of the fourth generation car, launched in 2008. The revisions to the styling came in 2012 and the sharply creased exterior still looks crisp and fresh. If you're looking for value from a Volkswagen Group product, here's a good place to start.

You'll be forgiven if you get a sense of déjà vu here, because SEAT has offered a 1.4-litre TSI version of the Ibiza before, but that model featured a 150PS motor supplemented by both a turbocharger and a supercharger.

Smoothness

As technically intriguing as that engine was, it didn't really make the efficiency numbers that today's buyers have come to expect, hence the availability of this much cleaner 140PS unit. It's still pretty zippy, getting to 62mph in 7.8 seconds and running onto 130mph, so it doesn't cede much in terms of performance to the 150PS unit.

We've seen this engine in a whole host of Volkswagen Group products including the Golf, the Audi A3 and SEAT's own Leon and it never ceases to impress with its smoothness and tractability.

The Ibiza FR looks the part with 16" alloy wheels, special bumpers and twin tailpipes.

Take a seat inside and while there's still quite a lot of black plastic on display with the focus remaining on functionality, soft-touch finishes are used in all the crucial areas and Ibiza regulars will notice the improvements made to this revised Ibiza model – the higher tone paint surfaces, the improved seat materials and, where fitted, the sleeker finish to the Climatronic climate control system.

You now get a significantly larger 10.7-litre glove compartment too, now boasting space for a lot more than just the usual owners manual, mobile charger and bag of gummi bears.

In the back, the three-door Ibiza SC's swooping roofline will make headroom an issue for taller folk, but five-door and ST estate models should seat two adults and/or three children quite comfortably. As for bootspace, the three-door SC variant offers 284-litres of luggage space, marginally less than the 292-litre total offered by the five-door bodystyle. If you want more, the ST estate model ups that total to 430-litres.

Equipment

Prices open at just over £15,000 for the three-door Ibiza SC FR, with around £500 more netting you the five-door version.

Like all Ibizas, this one also gets front electric windows, tinted glass, a four-speaker MP3-compatible CD stereo with AUX-in point and steering wheel controls, remote central locking, a 12v power socket and a height-adjustable driver's seat.

The SEAT Ibiza is a car that seems to refuse to age. Even the earliest of the fourth generation cars still look crisp and fresh but it's fair to say that the march of technology is outpacing our aesthetic appreciation.

In short, the 1.4 TSI engine that the Ibiza used to ship with just wasn't competitive anymore. You expect a 44mpg economy figure from an executive saloon these days, not a warmish supermini.

SEAT needed to do much, much better.

Thankfully it has. The 1.4 TSI ACT engine lifts that economy figure to the right side of 60mpg, is offered in all three Ibiza body styles and suits the slightly sporting FR trim very well.



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Rear-wheel drive thrills

By Iain Dooley

The performance-focused 2 Series injects some welcome sparkle into BMW's new compact coupe line-up.

What's new?: This M235i variant is the quick version of BMW's new 2 Series Coupe. Since a recent naming reshuffle, you're excused for thinking that you're looking at a 1 Series Coupe. Honestly, this is the 'new' 2 Series.

And for buyers seeking proper rear-wheel drive thrills without having to sell a kidney, the M235i is the closest most of us will get to a similar car sporting an 'M' badge.

Yes, an M2 is on the way but, until then, you've got the M235i – likely a more rounded and sensible choice if you've only got space for one performance BMW in your life.

Looks and image: It's not difficult to tell the difference between this M235i and a cooking diesel variant.

The former has clearly been at the box marked Shredded Wheat, what with its beefy bodykit, low and purposeful stance plus those

equally businesslike chunky wheels and tyres.

It's a little less in-your-face in the car's cabin, but the sports seats, M car-like steering wheel and subtle graphics ensure you don't forget what this car is capable of. Crucially, for all the talk about genuine M cars, this M-lite version offers a good balance of comfort and sportiness in the real world.

Space and practicality: If there's one thing that the M235i does share with its slower siblings, it's the fact that it's a surprisingly practical car for a compact coupe. Granted, space for rear seat occupants is less than great, but it boasts a good size boot and there's ample storage space in the cabin for all the tat associated with leading an active life.

Behind the wheel: From being a maker of rev-happy cars, BMW has fully embraced turbocharging with its latest range of performance motors.

The M235i is no different, and its 3.0-litre straight-six petrol engine benefits from turbocharging to the tune of 322bhp. That figure is plenty to get you to the horizon in a hurry, while the rasping from the exhaust ensures your journey is always entertaining.

Crucially the M235i is a doddle to drive at

modest speeds, while pushing harder reveals a car eager to please. Only when you really lean on it, does it show its hand as a hooligan.

That trick BMW approved tuning bits can be bought to further enhance the experience should please the hardcore fans, while you'll also want to pay a little extra for the slick eight-speed auto gearbox as the six-speed manual box lacks polish.

Manners

Value for money: It's all relative of course, but in the world of premium hot hatchbacks – or coupes – the M235i should be at the top of your shopping list. It possesses great road manners, is fun and engaging and is docile enough to double as regular transport to the shops and the office.

Base trim is a little, well, basic, but you'd be wise to spend your cash on the extra tuning bits instead of fancy paint or gadgets.

Who would buy one?: Anyone who's been raised on a diet of hot hatchbacks will like the M235i. It's a mature evolution of the breed yet retains that all-important 'edge' to keep you interested away from the city limits.

Thankfully its low-key looks don't scream



performance so you'll rarely turn heads – good news if you want to have some fun but not telegraph it to every man and his dog.

Plus it's rear-wheel drive, which is an important characteristic in a world full of million horsepower front-drive hot hatchbacks.

This car summed up in a single word: thrilling.

If this car was a ... surgical instrument, it would be a scalpel – precise, sharp and to the point.

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FORD KA 2001, leather interior, alloys, tax, Sept. MoT July, needs attention, £300, 07585 445720.

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£1,250.
01922 494872.

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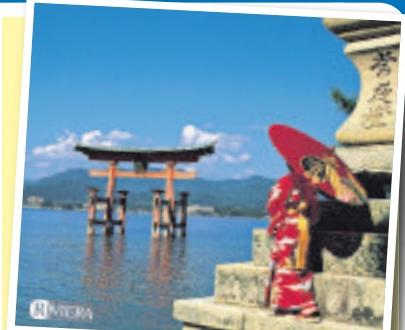
In Tokyo see its most fascinating districts, including the shopping and entertainment mecca of Ginza and the Akihabara electronic town – home to one of the first stores devoted to personal robots. Then to the north of the city there's the scenic area Nikko National Park, relatively unknown outside Japan. Surrounded by breathtaking lakes, waterfalls, forests and hot springs, a visit is made to one of the country's most extraordinary shrines – dedicated to one of its great Shogun warriors.

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JULIE really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411517

SAM, 35yrs, own business, sexy, loves dressing up and married, seeks discreet man for casual meetings. Can travel anywhere. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box No: 408297

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959

DIANE voluptuous curly and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, WLMT nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412321

SUSIE, married, adventurous/dominant lady, 38yrs, seeks discreet man any age/area for no strings fun. Tel: 0905 002 1945 Box No: 412285

SARA bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meets, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412055

EMMA petite young looking 31yr old attractive single brunette, loves walking, talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412037

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversations and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box No: 405297

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

JAN slim curly professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167

ANNA, bustly mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377

CHRISTINA, curly beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 410127

JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLMT older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412359

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FIT bubbly male, athletic, blue eyes, short hair, easy going, loving, GSOH, seeking female for no strings fun. Tel No: 411989

SHARON very attractive British lady, size 6 looking for white male to fall in love with. Beautiful people can be lonely too. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409263

KIRSTY blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, WLMT broadminded male for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBV for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801

60YR old male, 5ft 11ins, WLMT female, 40-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411097

STEVE 63, tall, fit, energetic, N/S, seeks lady, 50-65 and for friendship and who knows. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410941

SEAN 46, brown hair/eyes, average looks/build, loving, caring, understanding, seeks female to share good times with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410845

PAUL 62, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410799

SFT 6ins male, dark hair/eyes, glasses, likes meals out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. 0906 500 3955

IAN 47, 5ft 11ins, likes cinema, nights in/out, sports, socialising, GSOH seeking similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411229

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CHRIS 25yrs male, 5ft 11ins, slim, blue eyes, likes meals out, enjoys walking, cycling, socialising, seeks female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411285

EASY going male 45, likes sports, seeks female for relationship. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411541

MARK 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pub, seeks female with similar interests and GSOF for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411297

ATTRACTIVE male, seeks 100% adult fun with woman, any age/looks or status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411253

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TRUSTWORTHY fit, active, caring, easy going male, N/S, GSOF, seeks genuine lady, 59-72 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411083

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YOUNG male, 25, educated, likes arts, dogs, travel, classic cars, comedy, seeks similar older male for LTR. London/Shropshire anywhere. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412463

OLDER guy likes meals out, holidays, seeking younger for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411713

45 year old guy gay, sincere, caring, honest, loving looking for a sincere guy 40 to 50 years old. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 442338

DIVORCED male, young, fit 50, generous, own business, seeks male, any nationality, 18-20 for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412727

MALE 40's, discreet, seeks black male, under 30 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412415

SARAH shy, likes animals, football, cycling, walks, gardening, looking for female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411411

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MODERN young at heart lonely lady, 70's, likes trips out, holidays, seeking similar lady for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410215

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NICKY bubbly curly fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, enjoys N/S male with GSOF for possible flir. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479

ELAINE attractive 25yrs old blonde single, seeks respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715

JILL 50 attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410105

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOF to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408537

MARGARET OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things WLMT caring male with similar refined tastes. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407925

ATTRACTION 49yr old divorced lady, looking for honest, reliable man for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412261

ALAN tall widower, 76, looking for female for relationships. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412227

TALL slim gent, 60, seeks slim, attractive lady for no strings relationship. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412267

JANE 45, romantic, likes to wine/dine, days out, seeking younger female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412087

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Baxendale targets a big role at Saddlers

JAMES BAXENDALE has targeted a regular starting place for Walsall after admitting he is "itching" for the season to start.

The 21-year-old attacking midfielder wants to play a big role for the Saddlers after experiencing fluctuating fortunes last term.

After a bright start, Baxendale found himself in and out of the side over the second half of the campaign, as he was dogged by indifferent form and a niggling injury.

And he admits greater consistency must be his target this time around.

"You are excited for next season and the way I feel I am itching for next season," he said.

"I was consistently OK, while there were patches where I was really good."

"I have to get to be really good every week next season and obviously I am going to do everything in my power to make that happen."

The former Leeds youth teamer is seen as a key part of the future by Smith having signed a three-year deal last summer.

"Obviously the club have put faith in me and I have put faith in the club," he said.

Jackett will hang on to middle men

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett has insisted no 'middle men' will be allowed to leave this summer – despite having a team of midfielders and wingers.

Jackett is happy to allow Tongo Dombria and Razak Boukari to find new clubs during the transfer window.

But he wants midfielders Kevin McDonald, Lee Evans, Jack Price, Tommy Rowe, David Davis and Dave Edwards, plus wingers James Henry, Michael Jacobs, Bakary Sako and Rajiv Van La Parra, as well as one of Zeli Ismail and Eusebio Bancescu, to battle it out for five slots in the new season.

Asked if there would be any departures apart from the unwanted players, Jackett said: "I don't think so. If I'm looking at Kevin McDonald and Lee Evans finishing the season in the two central midfield positions, Jack Price had a lot of games and David Davis a few."

Faulkner will leave the Villa

VILLA have announced the departure of chief executive Paul Faulkner after failing to reach agreement on his future role.

Chief financial officer Robin Russell, who was recruited by chairman Randy Lerner in 2006, has been appointed acting CEO.

In a statement, the club said: "Having discussed his re-engaging with the chairman's broader business while remaining involved with Villa in a non-operational role, agreement could not be reached."

"On the strength of many productive years together Faulkner has parted on good terms."

Baggies showing interest in Hutton

ALBION have confirmed that they have added Villa's Alan Hutton to their list of potential summer signings – at the risk of another fan backlash.

The Baggies said there is an interest in the 29-year-old Scottish international as they bid to shore up the full-back positions vacated by the departures of Billy Jones, Liam Ridgewell and Goran Popov.

Alderson has signed Chris Baird and Craig Gardner, two versatile players who can play full-back but Hutton is regarded as a specialist.

But it's a deal which brought a sharp response on the social networks where Hutton's controversial tackle on Shane Long in a derby game three years ago has not been forgotten.

Long was taken out of the game for a month by the Hutton challenge.

Football

Meanwhile, Gareth McAuley has given a vote of support for Alan Irvine after the new head coach's first day of training.

Irvine's appointment got a frosty reception from fans but threats of a revolt among season ticket holders have not materialised.

McAuley said: "He had a good chat with us, got his ideas across, told us what he expects of us and the type of coaching he delivers. It was all very positive and everyone wants to get on the training pitch now."

Albion accepted demands for the chance of a refund but the deadline closed with just 14 season ticket holders following through on that threat.

Irvine and Albion know they need to win

further favour with more high profile signings but the

The Northern-Ireland international defender enjoyed his first meeting with the former Everton coach as the players returned to pre-season work yesterday.

"We've moved on from last season and it's all about looking forward."

"The page has changed and we have new goals."

"Let us down a little bit last season and we're not happy with finishing 17th."

"We'll be looking to improve on that this season."

McAuley said of new signings Joleon Lescott and Chris Baird: "Lescott is a great signing for us and a great statement from the club."

"He's worked with the gaffer and the

coaches before. He's a great player, an England international, and someone I'm looking forward to playing with."

"I've known Baird a long time. He's a great signing for the club, especially as he is so versatile."

Irvine said: "I'm really pleased with the way the first day has gone. The players have looked after themselves in the close season and reported back in good condition."

"We had the balls out in both sessions and the players trained really well, with a really good tempo and a lot of variety."

"By the end of this week, we're aiming to get them where they were technically when they finished the season."

"Tactically, we're not going to achieve anything this week. The main focus is building them up gradually on the physical side and giving them lots of touches of the ball."

Parra can ease into new life at Wolves

WOLVES new boy Rajiv Van La Parra has been told he can ease himself into life in the Championship.

The flying Dutch winger checked in at Molineux ready to challenge James Henry, Michael Jacobs and Bakary Sako for a place in Kenny Jackett's line-up.

But with all three of his rivals experienced in the Championship – Jackett stressed Van La Parra is under no pressure to hit the ground running when the action starts for real next month.

"Rajiv has come in with no apparent pressure because there's time for him to bed in because we have experienced players in his position who have played in the Championship before," said the head coach.

"Every player would want to be playing all of the time."

"He hasn't necessarily got (the insurance of having the other three wingers) but I have and the club have."

"For example, James Henry has played in the Championship for me and played very well."

But Jackett has no doubts that the 23-year-old from Heerenveen will make the transition to the Championship. "The bottom line is I think he is good enough to do that."

Sapphets take the top spot

AS the Wolverhampton City Netball League draws to a close, Sapphets again unbeaten all season, take the top spot in Division 1, continuing their winter league success, beating runners up Whitmore X 28-20.

Lucas pulled out all the stops to win their match against Chasetown A 26-19.

Sam 3 took the title in Division 2, overpowering Cresta 29-14. Libra Lea White taking second place.

Whitmore Y silenced Sedgley Sirens to secure top spot in Division 3 with Phoenix having to settle for the runners up spot. Odyssey had a close contest with Crescent, mother and daughter Dawn Bowen (Crescent) and Abbie (Odyssey) facing each other with Odyssey eventually taking the points 25-21.

Dolls are top of Division 4 with Whitmore T runners up.

Division 5 saw Whitmore J topping the group with Thundercats only one point behind.

Tai will lead the GB riders

TAI WOFFINDEN spearheads the 10-man Great Britain squad for speedway's World Cup announced by new team boss Alan Rossiter.

"Rosco" must select four for the big night at King's Lynn on Saturday, July 26.

But Wolves' world champion Woffinden, already named as captain, will surely be an automatic selection along with Coventry's Chris Harris, the only other Briton currently riding in the Grand Prix series.

"I'm bound to have upset some people," said Rossiter. "But in this position you have to stand by the decisions you make."

New boss will help to secure Villa's future

HISTORIC football club Pelsall Villa which faced closure has secured its future for the coming months, bosses said.

The club has recruited a new manager and is organising an event that is expected to raise in up to £5,000.

Pelsall has been struggling to survive after a small band of dedicated volunteers were left trying to run the club themselves.

They are still looking for a new chairman but current chief Mark Bentley said new recruit Dave Downing will ease the pressure.

Mr Bentley's son Andrew was acting as player-manager for the first team, but he will now be able to dedicate more time to keeping the club going.

Mr Downing has previously worked with Romulus FC in Sutton Coldfield, came forward after the club appealed for help.

And an evening with Walsall FC legend Jimmy Walker at Pelsall Social Club on July 31 will attract up to 250 people at £20 a ticket.

Mr Bentley insisted the club still needs "all the help we can get" but added: "Instead of doom and gloom there is a light at the end of the tunnel now."

At a crunch meeting last month he warned if a new chairman was not found within weeks the club could fold as he could not balance the role with a full-time job and his family.

But now first team duties have been taken off his son he believes he can continue as chairman if needed – though he hopes a successor will still be found.

He said: "Things are looking brighter now and if the Jimmy Walker event is a success then that will be a big boost."

The 140-year-old club will

play in the West Midlands Regional League this season after £5,000 was raised to save it. It will play as Darlaston Town (1874) FC.



Jonny Brain and Jimmy Walker who will be taking over at Pelsall Villa which was facing closure

Albion building goes on with Baird deal

ALBION continued the stocking up of next season's squad with the signing of utility specialist Chris Baird.

The 32-year-old Northern Ireland international was due to complete a Bosman transfer after finishing last season helping Burnley clinch their promotion to the Premier League.

The low-key transfer is unlikely to do much to pacify the grumblies among Baggies fans fretting about an Albion rebuild which sees Baird added to the recruitments of Joleon Lescott and Craig Gardner.

Baird, who has developed a reputation as a flexible footballer capable of playing across all the defensive positions and midfield, appears to be a 'like-for-like' replacement for Steven Reid, who has not been retained by Albion and signed for Burnley.

But he will be signing with the personal endorsement of his international team mates Chris Brunt and Gareth McAuley.

A Northern Ireland regular since 2003 who had a spell on loan at Walsall, Baird will provide an immediate option in the full-back positions in which the club are still short of specialists.

But the Baggies are still working on adding to their numbers as new head coach Alan Irvine today meets up with his squad for the first time since his appointment.

Albion Technical Director Terry Burton

is still heading the hunt for as many as six more new signings in a summer of radical change for the club.

Baird still hasn't given up on signing

Monaco's 24-year-old forward Emmanuel Rivière, the French youth and Under 21

international. That has seen the club step up interest in Burkina Faso forward Prejuce Nakoulma, who at 27 is a free agent after being released by Polish side Gornik Zabrze.

Nakoulma scored 24 goals in 87 games

in three years at Zabrze and also has four goals in 16 games for Burkina Faso.

But they are not the statistics of a high-class forward to appease Albion fans still unconvinced about the appointment of Irvine.

Baird's CV is solid enough but while it is a practical signing it is unlikely to soften the voices of critics accusing the club of a lack of ambition.

But he arrives having previously been a target for Roy Hodgson, under whom he enjoyed his best football while playing at

Fulham under the former Albion boss. He began his career at Southampton, where he made 68 appearances between 2001 and 2007 before moving to Fulham, where he enjoyed a successful six-year spell.

Meanwhile, Albion chairman Jeremy Peace has confirmed that his control of the club has now gone past 75 per cent.

Peace has bagged a further 905 from Albion's dwindling number of independent shareholders. They accepted his offer of £3,000 per ordinary share.

But it is understood that other shareholders have indicated a willingness to sell and as a result Peace is extending the deadline for a further two weeks. It has led to speculation among fans that he is preparing to sell the club – but it is understood that there are no buyers waiting in the wings.

"I'm bound to have upset some people," said Rossiter. "But in this position you have to stand by the decisions you make."

SPORT

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Image of
me unfair
insists Villa
No.2Keane

NEW Villa assistant manager Roy Keane has insisted his reputation as a rancer and raver is unfair.

The Irishman, who will also continue as No.2 to Martin O'Neill with the Ireland squad, has been keen to make a return to the day-to-day workings of football since being sacked as Ipswich manager in January 2011.

Keane has had his fair share of bust-ups with the likes of Sir Alex Ferguson and Mick McCarthy, and the Sunderland players allegedly celebrated when they heard of his departure as manager.

But the former Manchester United skipper insists he will have no problem getting on with the Villa squad.

"I think it is a bit unfair but it doesn't keep me awake at night," he said when questioned about his reputation.

"I suppose it is part of the image which has been built up over the years, particularly through the media – although I have had one or two incidents."

"In terms of working with the players I've worked with lads over a long period of time without any issues but, having said that, you have to be ready to have disagreements with people particularly if you all want the same things."

Brummies forced to fold

BIRMINGHAM Brummies speedway team has folded.

The announcement comes after the decision of promoter Alan Phillips to pull out of the club. It means the club will be removed from the Elite League and its records expunged for this season.

The Brummies, who lost their last fixture 56-39 away to Belle Vue on Monday night, were formed in 2007 and are currently second from bottom of the table.

But it is hoped speedway can continue at Perry Barr in some format.

A statement from the British Speedway Promoters' Association read: "The Association can confirm the annulment of Birmingham Brummies Ltd, the Birmingham Speedway promotions."

"This is a decision made in accordance with the speedway regulations."

Bax to work

Midfielder itching to get back on the pitch

Page 43

Brighter future

Troubled Pelsall is under new leaders

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email: Chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Spanish trialists at Saddlers as striker to join

WALSALL are ready to welcome two Spanish trialists as Dean Smith closed in on another forward signing.

The duo have been summoned following the manager's close season scouting trip to Spain and will be put through their paces with the Saddlers this week.

Smith is also set to complete a deal for a striker later today, having agreed terms with a player late last week.

Working with one of the division's tightest playing budgets, Smith has always been keen to explore new ways of finding players and that was the motivation behind the

Football

Spanish mission. He admits both players could be signed up should they impress during the trial.

"It's just to have a look at them and see where they are at in terms of our level and the level they are at, in terms of where they have been playing," he said.

"If it fits with us there is a possibility of them signing, if not they will go back but we will keep that relationship open and hope there is something which comes up. One of the lads is someone we saw out there and

the other is someone who came up and is available.

"It helps when there are two of them, as they can speak Spanish together!"

Smith has put the emphasis on finding attacking players after his side struggled for goals last term.

But one player who won't be signing at the Banks's for next season is Milan Lalkovic.

The forward scored six goals during a season-long loan with the Saddlers last season from Chelsea and was released by the Premier League club last month.

But Smith believes the Slovakian under-21 international has had offers from abroad and will not be returning.

"I have spoken to Milan and he won't be coming back," he said. "I think he may have offers from abroad and I know there are teams that have enquired, too, from the Championship."

"I had a really good chat with him. He is a really good lad and I have a lot of time for him."

"He actually said that he didn't want to go to another League One team out of courtesy to us, which is a lovely thing to say."

Banks's 'is perfect' for rising stars

JAMES CHAMBERS has told Walsall's young guns they are in the right place if they want to fulfil their potential.

The veteran defender admits he is excited by the latest crop of players to emerge from Saddlers' youth system.

While Dean Smith's team already has a young spine thanks to the presence of Paul Downing, Sam Manton and Romaine Sawyers, there is a further group of homegrown players ready to emerge.

Reece Flanagan, Kieron Morris and Jake Heath will all be looking to make their mark on the first team in the coming League One campaign.

Chambers believes the Banks's stadium is an ideal place for them to begin their professional careers, citing Jamie Paterson – who left the club last summer for Nottingham Forest – as a prime example of what can be achieved.

"There are a lot of young players here and the talent," he said.

"It will be interesting for the fans to see these players as they progress and come through."

Lockmen pay for their errors

Willenhall Town 0 Walsall Wood 4

THE Lockmen saw the standards they need to aspire to as a clinical Walsall Wood took advantage of defensive errors. Two back passes were punished in the first half. Slack marking cost two goals in the second. This Saturday Willenhall play Rushall, noon kickoff.

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JORDAN WILL BE COOK-ING ON GAS

DEAN SMITH says new boy Jordan Cook has the hunger to serve up success at Walsall.

The 24-year-old forward became the Saddlers fourth signing of the summer when the boss persuaded him to put pen to paper on a two-year deal.

Cook is well known to supporters having made eight appearances – scoring one goal – when on loan from Premier League Sunderland in the final weeks of the 'Great Escape' campaign of 2010/11.

He had been released by Charlton. The hitman has spent the past two seasons in the Championship with Charlton Athletic, where he made just six starts and failed to find the net before being released earlier this summer.

Ability

But Smith believes he has the ability and attitude to be a success at the Banks's.

"Jordan will be the first to admit Charlton did not go as well as he wanted but I have spoken to the people at there," said Smith. "We have done our due diligence on him even though we knew him from before.

"He was unfortunate, a few people down there thought he should have played in more games than he did but he is hungry.

"He has big ambitions and has a hunger and desire to come and score goals here and do well for himself."

Aside from his previous spell at the Banks's, Cook's most prolific run of form came during a loan spell at Carlisle when he netted four

goals. Smith believes his pace and energy can cause problems for League One defences when the new season starts.

"I believe he has got a pedigree, he has got a lot of potential," added Smith. "He fits into the mould. He is hungry, ambitious and energetic. I just liked his hunger."

"I thought we lacked a bit of energy and legs toward the end of last season. Jordan has got that, he will get in behind defences."

Cook's arrival means the Saddlers new-look forward line for the new campaign is beginning to take shape as he joins Tom Bradshaw, who signed from Shrewsbury, Romaine Sawyers and youngster Amadou Bakayoko.

Satisfied with his defensive options after Andy Taylor signed a new deal last week, Smith will continue to focus on his efforts in finding attacking players with several trialists poised to get a run out in Friday's opening pre-season friendly against Wigan. The Saddlers came in for criticism last season due to their perceived lack of fire power.



Saddlers boss Dean Smith welcomes new signing Jordan Cook to the Banks's stadium



Mike Gahan, Chief Executive